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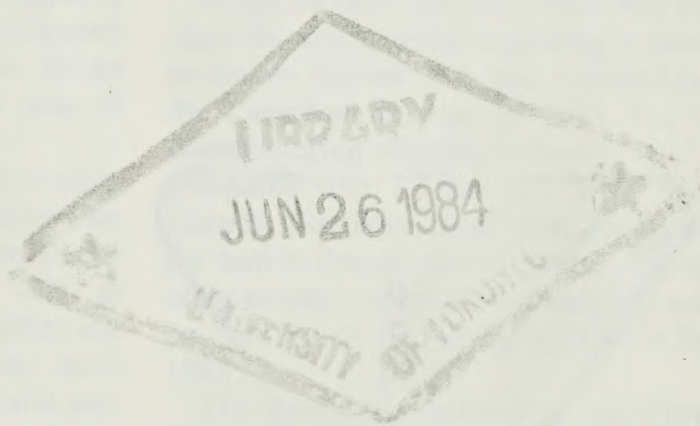


No. 1

# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario



**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
**Tuesday, March 20, 1984**

**Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner**  
**Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC**

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Tuesday, March 20, 1984

The Fourth Session of the 32nd Parliament of the province of Ontario opened at 3 p.m. for the dispatch of business pursuant to a proclamation of the Honourable J. B. Aird, Lieutenant Governor of the province.

The Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, having entered the chamber and being seated upon the throne, was pleased to open the session with the following gracious speech.

## SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

**Hon. Mr. Aird:** Pray be seated.

Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly, before reviewing our immediate circumstances and outlining the commitment of my government to the renewal of our economy and the enrichment of our way of life, let us gratefully acknowledge that this is a year of special celebration and rededication.

This is the 200th anniversary of the first major settlement in Ontario, and it is appropriate to take some time to reflect on our heritage, to mark our achievements, to celebrate together and to express our appreciation. Our communities are strong and blessed with people who have journeyed from around the world to build one vigorous and tolerant society.

Our citizens have embraced this event with genuine enthusiasm. Indeed, as one giant fair, this summer all across Ontario close to 790 municipalities, Indian bands and service districts will participate in community celebrations to mark our bicentennial.

Throughout, the province will emphasize the importance of community and the generous contributions of all those who built Ontario—from the first native and French-Canadian settlers, from the Loyalists to the waves of new settlers ever since.

My government is particularly pleased that our Sovereign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, will be with us to help celebrate our bicentennial. The monarchy is at the heart of our democratic system. The presence of the Queen in our province will bring life and meaning to that fact while giving Ontarians an opportunity to display the loyalty and affection we feel toward the royal family.

De plus, nous aurons le privilège de recevoir cet automne la visite de Sa Sainteté le pape Jean-Paul II, événement d'une importance considérable pour des millions de Canadiens. Sa présence nous rappellera, non pas nos réalisations, mais les obligations que nous partageons avec le reste de l'humanité à l'égard de la vie et de la paix.

As well, our province will be graced this fall with the visit of His Holiness Pope Jean Paul II, whose presence will be of deep significance for millions of Canadians. He will remind us, not of our unique accomplishments, but the obligation we share with all humanity to cherish life and to work for peace.

In my address last year I indicated there were signs the economy was beginning to emerge from recession. Indeed, it is now evident Ontario led the Canadian recovery in 1983. For instance, manufacturing shipments rose by 10.7 per cent compared with 7.0 per cent across the rest of Canada. Similarly, retail sales expanded by 9.6 per cent in Ontario versus 6.6 per cent in the rest of the country, and most encouraging was the 5.2 per cent increase in employment since December 1982.

The automotive industry played a key role in driving Ontario's recovery. In fact, almost half of the growth in manufacturing shipments in 1983 was secured by the transportation equipment industry. This experience demonstrates the ongoing importance and underlying resilience of this base industry. Also, it confirms the importance my government attaches to helping our firms adjust to new global circumstances. As well, it strengthens our determination to encourage offshore auto manufacturers to increase significantly investment in North America. We expect to see concrete results this year.

Of comparable importance to northern Ontario, our mining industry is extremely robust. Last year, for instance, exploration activity doubled, and with the completion of the new gold mining and milling facility at Hemlo, 800 full-time jobs will be secured and Ontario will again take the lead as Canada's largest gold producer.

Across our province the recovery will expand in 1984. Strong United States growth is expected to continue, offering wider export opportunities.



As well, the European economies, along with most others where performance has lagged behind the North American recovery, are now growing again, providing further opportunities for trade. Within Ontario, healthy growth in real incomes, along with an improved mortgage market, should result in a good increase in housing starts in 1984.

**3:10 p.m.**

A renewed spirit of confidence in ourselves and in our circumstances will assist us in our important work. However, the fear born of deep and painful recession cannot be replaced by complacency or neglect. Indeed, while our challenges can now be more confidently addressed, our responsibilities remain great and have not diminished.

The upturn of a severe business cycle will alleviate much of the hardship our people have experienced. Nevertheless, without responsible leadership and co-operative action, it cannot assure just and secure growth with decent opportunities for all our citizens.

We should be encouraged that Ontario made a leading contribution to employment recovery last year. Furthermore, employment expansion will continue. However, while the unemployment rate has declined sharply, it remains too high and will stay too high without a fresh commitment to serve the nationwide employment goals we enjoyed in the past.

As well, while economic growth is under way, we are witnessing a major transformation of the economy and, thus, we must prepare to meet new tests and new risks. Traditional patterns of employment, skill requirements, investment and industry growth are changing dramatically. These changes raise social as well as economic questions that cannot be answered merely by traditional economic policies. Nevertheless, if they are addressed directly with supportive and sensitive measures, they can be overcome.

So, the central task before our province is to take full, fair and durable advantage of the recovery under way at present. Before proceeding on the agenda ahead, however, my government emphasizes that our goals cannot be reached by forcing the rate of growth generally or exceeding the financial and practical limits of government.

Hard lessons were learned during the fight against inflation. It is well understood that inflationary deficits do not create genuine growth in long-term employment; rather, they can cost jobs. At the same time, inflation always imposes a heavy tax on the less powerful and those on

fixed incomes. Clearly, it is essential that profits are turned into productive investments and that wage claims are disciplined by the realities of world competition.

My government is determined to extend its efforts to ease and encourage adjustment. However, while government can be the friend of positive change, it cannot fully control the processes. Indeed, it is precisely at times of rapid adjustment that private enterprise and individual entrepreneurs make their greatest contribution, seeking out new opportunities and setting aside old ways of doing things. From that perspective, my government will undertake selective and supportive measures and will maximize its efforts by working in co-operation and in partnership with all those elements of the economy committed to meeting the challenge.

It must be noted that the leadership of the government of Canada is in transition and, consequently, the general direction of national economic policy may be uncertain for some time. Nevertheless, my government reconfirms its willingness to work with the government of Canada on important specific tasks. Bearing in mind the fresh interest in technology, innovation and industrial adjustment, many opportunities exist to improve the effectiveness of our efforts through more systematic and concrete co-operation. The distance between our senior governments, even when they are not differing, is a real tax on Canada's vitality—a tax our major competitors do not pay.

For our part, the government of Ontario will carry its share of the challenge. My ministers, and in particular the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) in his budget, will place before you a range of initiatives to help Ontario advance in the year ahead. In order to maximize for all Ontarians the benefits of the present recovery, my government's actions will be guided by three fundamental and timely goals. It is within our capacity and it is our obligation to improve access for young people and women to the benefits of economic growth and challenging work; to reinforce the ability of industries and mature workers to meet and master change; and to ensure steady improvement in our quality of life and in the quality of government services.

Last year, public support for youth employment creation was increased dramatically. In the light of the continuing dimension of the challenge, my government will extend substantially this priority commitment. To countenance for long massive youth unemployment would be unconscionable and would diminish Ontario's



future vigour. Simply, economic renewal without meaningful work for our young would be a cruel illusion.

We should appreciate, however, that the economy created 49,000 new jobs for our young people during the past year and that a strong economy will make the greatest contribution to expanding genuine employment. That is our overriding responsibility. In addition, we can and will increase our direct support to help provide employment for young people.

Along with an increase in funds for the Ontario career action program, our youth employment counselling centres will be expanded significantly. In order to assure clear access to the array of initiatives across our ministries, a consolidated one-window approach will be introduced with one responsible minister. To enhance critical skill requirements in our small and medium-sized enterprises and, as well, to introduce graduates to potential careers, my government will broaden its export apprenticeship program to critical fields in the applied sciences. Also, the government will extend access for young people to entrepreneurial opportunities.

Along with efforts to improve women's rights and opportunities in the marketplace, my government will undertake a significant reform of its own manpower policies in order to enhance management and employee flexibility and, consequently, to increase career opportunities in government, particularly for women. From now on, to provide wider access to improved rights and benefits, the civil service will include employees who work on a regular part-time basis.

Furthermore, many initiatives designed to maintain and extend our social capital and basic services will create worthwhile employment. For instance, my ministries will assist small communities to upgrade police and fire stations, support the growth of recreational boating and help develop new marinas. Our support for local measures to protect our water resources will be broadened and, of course, the construction of the Natural Resources Centre at the University of Toronto and the extension of the GO Transit lakeshore line will be of significant benefit. Along with the federal government, we will provide funds for the design and manufacture of bilevel railway cars to strengthen employment and transportation in northern Ontario.

**3:20 p.m.**

Further initiatives will help the private sector create employment. For instance, we will work with our tourist industry to create tourism

co-operatives to help unemployed tradespeople find jobs, strengthening our richly diverse tourist resources. In addition, we will intensify our efforts to attract American tourists to Ontario.

Increased long-term job creation in our service sector, along with a healthy broadening of our vital financial community, will most certainly take place following our decision to create a self-governing and self-financing insurance exchange in Toronto.

It is acknowledged universally that industrial transformation inevitably destroys some jobs, but it can also create many more. The key to emerging from this period of adjustment with full employment and a strong, prosperous and competitive economy is investment, and investment must accelerate now before it is too late.

The high level of underutilized plant capacity in our economy does not excuse inaction. In this period of fundamental change, the measure of competitive world-class investment is not merely the dollar value of plant capacity but the quality of our performance in manpower training, technology adaptation, trade development and teamwork. These four goals require and will receive intensified action by my government.

With the growing mobility of capital and technology, our people will be the critical arbitrator of our wellbeing. Furthermore, if adjustment is to be accepted and not resisted, workers must have reasonable access to new skills and new technology. Good government cannot protect our working people from change itself, but it can equip them with the ability to change and to continue to enjoy rewarding, valued employment.

Consequently, the government will introduce a substantially expanded training and retraining program which will support new initiatives in the work place and in educational institutions. Also, it will create a province-wide network of training and business development consultants to assist industry in upgrading their human resources. The government intends to consult shortly with the government of Canada on this shared area of responsibility.

In addition, we are preparing initiatives, based primarily on the review of the sheltered workshop program, to widen work and training opportunities for handicapped persons in our society and to improve the business marketing acumen of these industries.

To enhance the focus, co-ordination, access and public understanding of our training priority, the government will take all necessary steps to co-ordinate the efforts of local training councils,



develop training software and facilitate the process of industrial adjustment and skills development.

With continuing high real interest rates in Canada, the introduction of competitive state-of-the-art technology is not simply a consulting problem, which our technology centres are addressing vigorously, but a cost problem as well for many of our best small and medium-sized industries.

Two thirds of all new jobs are created by enterprising men and women who start small businesses. Their success now depends on their ability to use up-to-date technology. Thus, the Ontario development corporations, in concert with our technology centres, will change their loan programs to simplify financing for new ventures, help small companies acquire high-technology equipment and develop new uses for Canadian high-technology products in the service sector. Also, the government will continue to encourage a closer working relationship between our financial community and the higher risk innovation requirements of our industrial base.

As indicated in previous statements to this assembly, the development of new and expanded facilities in higher education will henceforth be selective and related to those programs that best serve the interests of the province and nation as a whole. In this regard, funds will be directed towards the expansion of facilities for the Institute of Computer Research and related activities at the University of Waterloo, where such programs have already earned a worldwide reputation. We are confident this investment will not only produce graduates with skills and knowledge required for the years ahead but will create incentives for industry to expand its efforts within related fields of excellence.

In addition, unique measures to meet unique assignments will be designed for such key areas as the retooling of our winning Canadian auto parts firms and the modernization of small food processors.

The future wellbeing of our agriculture industry will be assisted by creating a widely representative advisory council on agriculture. It will provide independent advice to the government on all matters affecting agriculture's future prosperity.

Beyond intensifying our efforts to export our agriculture products to the American market, the government will set up a commercial crop development fund to support research on new crops with commercial potential in Ontario. Crop

research and production initiatives will also be undertaken to support the further development of agriculture in northern Ontario.

World trade almost doubled in the 1970s and is expanding once more. If Ontario is to prosper and maximize its potential, we must share fully in this adventure. In the past year, our export performance strongly contributed to economic recovery and job creation. It is crucial that this momentum continue and broaden. My government reaffirms its commitment to exports and, accordingly, further action will be undertaken.

For instance, the export success fund will be reinforced and the Ontario International Corp. and the Ontario Educational Services Corp. will be integrated and strengthened to accelerate the export of our highly regarded professional and public sector services. Also, support will be provided to take advantage of our world-recognized competence in mobile communications and electrotechnology.

The Board of Industrial Leadership and Development will co-ordinate these investments in training, technology and trade, while the marketplace will serve as the best allocator of precious resources in the private sector. Nevertheless, if our collective efforts are to be mobilized to best effect, we must match our competition in teamwork as well.

Successful industrial jurisdictions avoid interfering with the swift decision-making ability of the entrepreneur. However, they have come to understand that if the state nurtures common goals and a spirit of shared investment in change, then, in fact, more is accomplished on time. My government has long held this to be a national priority, has expressed its views to the Royal Commission on Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada and will respond positively when the government of Canada chooses to lead.

However, the 1980s are well under way and, bearing in mind the urgency of the task, my government, under the stewardship of the Premier (Mr. Davis), will convene, primarily with business and labour, a Conference on Ontario's Economic Future and its competitive position in the world economy. Working with the strategic directions outlined in this address and in the upcoming budget of the Treasurer, my government will help lead our economic partners in Ontario to a shared appreciation of the basic questions underlying our investment in the future. Specifically: Do we agree on the goals that can bring us together? What are our significant and separate responsibilities? What



are the critical obstacles? How best can we help each other?

The ability, along with the obligation, of any government to set new directions while maintaining public trust largely depends on the care it takes in maintaining basic services and in advancing community concerns. This is well understood by my government, and during this session the government will be active in both these fundamental fields.

**3:30 p.m.**

In order to preserve the quality of our future and the diversity of our rich heritage, my government will undertake further initiatives to sustain our natural resources and protect our environment. A Canada-Ontario five-year agreement has been developed to strengthen the management and renewal of our forests.

To secure the future for our commercial fishing industry, we are implementing a new licensing and management system. Furthermore, the government will convene a Water Resources Conference this June, representing all responsible Canadian and American governments as well as scientists and technical experts, to assess the conflicting demands on and the future quality of our Great Lakes system.

Beyond the government's firm commitment to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions by 50 per cent by 1994, my government remains ready to stand together with the government of Canada in pursuing serious co-operation on the part of the United States.

While we remain vigilant in the protection of Ontario's birthright, the environment, we are prepared to reform, from experience, the processes in our regulatory framework. For instance, in some cases mediation may be a more sensible means of resolving disputes than existing administrative or judicial processes. Consequently, experimental mediation procedures will be initiated with the Environmental Assessment Board. Also, in close consultation with environmental groups and other interested parties, we will explore whether indeed this is the time to review, not the intent but the costly complexity of the procedures now mandated by our environmental laws.

Our government-wide responsibility to streamline, modernize and prune government regulations will be pursued energetically this year. Also, the government looks forward to the recommendations of the Thom Commission of Inquiry into Residential Tenancies. In improving our rental review procedures, the government will hold to its commitment to protect the

legitimate interests of both tenants and landlords in Ontario.

My government has resolved, in the face of increasing pressure on and opportunities in the financial sector, to determine the necessary measures to ensure the health and competitiveness of the financial institutions operating in Ontario including the banks, trust companies, investment dealers and insurance firms. Towards this end, the government will establish a task force to advise us on the organization and operation of the financial community in Ontario.

Following careful and extensive consultations, the government will be introducing, in this session, reforms to the workers' compensation system, ranging from the benefit structure to improved labour and business representation on the corporate board.

Along with our determination to advance the just interests and rights of women in our programs generally and in the community at large, specific actions will be undertaken. Building on our own extensive program, the government will provide leadership in the field of positive affirmative action. Crown agencies, school boards and municipalities will be asked to join with us in setting up effective affirmative action programs. Beyond the 245 private companies which have made similar voluntary commitments to date, the government will continue to encourage further participation in the private sector.

The government will proceed with amendments to the Employment Standards Act to strengthen provisions for equal pay and pregnancy and adoption leave. Also, we will review access to and the quality of child care in Ontario, with particular reference to the needs of families in both urban and rural areas.

In serving our society, my government will undertake a series of initiatives in the social and justice fields. They are not inspired to extend the reach of government, but to enforce and enhance the rights of the individual in this civilized and decent province.

In the light of arguments before the courts on the legal framework of the Ontario Board of Censors, my government firmly restates its conviction that it is this assembly's obligation to uphold our community values and provide reasonable and clear-cut protection against exploitative film and video productions. Required legislative changes will be introduced swiftly.

One true measure of a society's respect for the individual is its attention to the needs of its elderly citizens. Accordingly, the Treasurer will



pursue with other senior governments pension reforms to increase benefits for single elderly and the disabled, along with inflation protection and improved portability for private pensions.

Significant further resources will be provided to fight violence against women and children in the home. Funding will be increased for transition houses and northern family resource centres and associated services to encourage greater community involvement in addressing this intolerable social problem.

To improve the framework of services to children, the government will proceed with the proposed Child and Family Services Act. In order to maintain the integrity of the Family Law Reform Act, amendments will be proposed and, as well, a strict enforcement of family maintenance orders will be instituted. In addition, the definition of family property will be reviewed.

Drinking and driving remains, tragically and wastefully, a major killer in Ontario. Consequently, my government will intensify its efforts to combat this menace. While looking forward to action by the Parliament of Canada to strengthen the criminal law, my government will continue its leadership in heightening public understanding, extending community-based programs and enforcing our rights to reasonable safety on the highways.

As well as strengthening law enforcement and the efficient management of our courts system, the government will improve the services and programs designed to help victims, witnesses and other innocent citizens who come into contact with the justice system. Enabling legislation will be introduced to provide for provincial administration of the Young Offenders Act. Furthermore, building on our tradition of community concern and action, we will continue to encourage communities to set up Neighbourhood Watch committees as an invaluable and effective means to enhance the safety of our citizens.

The government is determined to maintain for the people of Ontario what we believe is the finest health care system in the world. Our success will depend on the continuing co-operation of the medical profession, our public hospitals and all those involved in the delivery of health care.

New measures will be required and will be undertaken this year. For instance, the introduction of teaching health units will advance the public health sector. Emphasis on community-based care for the elderly and the mentally ill will allow the vast majority to remain in familiar surroundings. The government will continue to

provide additional institutional facilities for those who will best benefit from such care. Additional chronic and nursing home beds will be built, and changes in the living environment within existing facilities will be based on the express desires of residents.

Le ministère de la Santé accroîtra l'accès aux méthodes les plus à jour dans le but de prévenir les maladies rénales et de les traiter. De plus, les services d'urgence seront élargis afin de faciliter aux malades l'accès à l'hôpital le plus approprié, et une nouvelle loi sur les services d'urgence sera soumise à l'Assemblée législative. En outre, nous allons entreprendre des programmes visant à augmenter le personnel francophone dans le domaine de la santé et voir à une meilleure répartition de ces services dans les régions francophones.

**3:40 p.m.**

The Ministry of Health will increase access to the most up-to-date methods to prevent and treat kidney disease. Emergency services will also be expanded to enhance patient access to the most appropriate hospital centre. At the same time, a new Emergency Health Services Act will be introduced. In addition, we will undertake programs to increase the supply of French-speaking health care workers and a better distribution of health services in French-speaking areas.

As our society evolves and advances, your government will continue reform and innovation necessary to maintain our high investment in education. For instance, this year remote secondary schools in the north will receive special funds to deepen their curriculum and upgrade their capital facilities.

In consultation with the Council of Ontario Universities and the Ontario Teachers' Federation, the government will work to design a province-wide testing program necessary to assess the effectiveness of our curriculum and the performance of our students. The teacher in the classroom is the cornerstone of excellence in education and, to a great extent, the promise of Ontario. However, to assist the government in meeting its responsibilities and parents in participating in their children's education, such tests will help all of us maintain the high quality of our education system.

Consistent with our previous commitments to minority-language education rights in our province, my government will reintroduce early in this session amendments to the Education Act to recognize the right of every French-speaking or English-speaking pupil to an education in his



or her own language and to enable the Minister of Education to resolve situations in which a school board or the Languages of Instruction Commission of Ontario may disagree on an appropriate course of action.

As well, legislation will be introduced regarding the governance of minority-language education along the lines proposed in the Ministry of Education's white paper, as refined by the current consultation process with the school boards and associations concerned.

To help new immigrants become full and confident members of our community, the government will extend its Ontario Welcome House program and continue to improve its support for special English language training. To widen access to our highly regarded TV Ontario network, provision for additional transmitters in eastern Ontario will be initiated this year. Progress in building and extending access to Ontario's cultural excellence will be maintained. In the long haul, the calibre of our society and, indeed, its economy will be shaped significantly by our commitment to the arts and the artist.

Further to the recent first ministers' conference on the Constitution, my government restates its determination to work with other governments to confirm aboriginal rights in our Constitution, consistent with the economic development goals of all citizens of Ontario.

My government anticipates that this assembly will agree that the initiatives we present will be of general and timely benefit to Ontario. However, we wish to reassert that our continuing ability to meet new opportunities will not be borne by a diminished private sector but primarily by careful management of our resources and significant productivity gains in our services.

While our growing population has increased the need for services, public sector employment has steadily declined and public sector wages have risen responsibly. Consequently, our productivity has clearly increased, much to the benefit of the public at large and much to the credit of our employees.

The burden of government spending and our deficit is the lowest per capita in Canada. However, productivity is an ongoing responsibility and further measures will be taken to enhance the value of services for each tax dollar. Also, we will work closely with the agencies which receive provincial funds to consider value for money in their operations. Approximately 75 per cent of our expenditures are transfer payments. The autonomy enjoyed by these agencies carries with it the responsibility for effective

financial and administrative stewardship through modern management practices such as value-for-money auditing.

Honourable members, I am most pleased to acknowledge the appointment of a new Governor General and indicate that we look forward to welcoming her officially to Ontario. Also, it is appropriate to point out that the government will support the United Nations' choice of 1985 as International Youth Year, with the theme of participation, development and peace. Those principles are the signature of a youthful heart. Truly, they were well expressed in the courage and energy of the builders of Ontario we honour this year.

It is my government's confident expectation that the directions we will now undertake will help provide a future of opportunity and fulfilment for the spirit of youth which still charges this great province.

May Divine Providence attend your deliberations.

In our Sovereign's name, I thank you.

God bless the Queen and Canada.

The Honourable the Lieutenant Governor was pleased to retire from the chamber.

**3:50 p.m.**

**Mr. Speaker:** I beg to inform the House that I have obtained a copy of His Honour's speech. In order to prevent mistakes, I will now read it. [Reading dispensed with.]

## INTRODUCTION OF BILL

### COUNTY COURTS AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. McMurtry moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Wells, first reading of Bill 1, An Act to amend the County Courts Act.

Motion agreed to.

## MOTIONS

### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor to this House be taken into consideration on Thursday next, March 22.

Motion agreed to.

## HOUSE SITTINGS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that commencing tomorrow, March 21, the House will not sit in the chamber on Wednesdays unless otherwise ordered.

Motion agreed to.

## HONOURABLE WILLIAM EARL ROWE

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, it is my very sad duty to formally notify the House of the death



of the Honourable Earl Rowe on February 9, at the age of 89.

Throughout his full and active life, Earl Rowe made numerous contributions to the conduct of public affairs at all levels of government in Canada. His record of achievement included service as a municipal councillor, as a reeve, as a provincial legislator and as leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party. In addition, he served with distinction as a long-time member of Parliament, the youngest member of the Bennett cabinet, a member of the Privy Council and as the Queen's representative in this province.

Thus, for some 66 years of his 89, Earl Rowe gave distinguished and caring service to the people of Simcoe county, to this province and to this nation. On a day such as this, it is particularly fitting that we recall the five years during which he ably executed the responsibilities as our Lieutenant Governor. His efforts did much to establish the respect and affection in which the Queen's representative is held in our province.

While public life certainly occupied a great deal of his time, Earl Rowe also managed to find fulfilment and achievement in the areas of business; farming; the breeding of horses, primarily standardbreds, and standardbred racing itself. His accomplishments encompassed the sporting life of our province, and his interests were translated into the establishments at Windsor and, his most recent affection, in the great community of Barrie.

As one who knew him rather well, I believe his greatest and probably his most important achievement was the raising of his family together with his very gracious wife, who passed away earlier this year. His daughter, Jean Casselman Wadds, and his son, William, both of whom are with us in the House today, have already done much in their own right to ensure that the Rowe family will continue to play a vital role in the life of our province and our country.

On behalf of the government and the members of the Legislature, I extend our deepest sympathies to the Rowe family. I say in a very personal sense how much I will miss the advice, stories and reminiscences of the person I always regarded as not only a very great Canadian but also a very decent human being.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I am happy to rise on behalf of my colleagues to share the Premier's words about the esteemed Honourable William Earl Rowe.

A poet once intoned in his poem *God Give Us Men*:

"Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy,

"Men who possess opinions and will,

"Men who have honour,

"Men who will not lie."

Such a man was the Honourable William Earl Rowe.

Many of us in this chamber began our public careers after Mr. Rowe's public career had ended, but there are many of my veteran colleagues who remember him with great warmth and affection. I refer particularly to the dean of the House, the member for Wellington South (Mr. Worton), the member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. Newman), and the former leader of our party, the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon).

There is no doubt that Mr. Rowe took great pride in achieving the lofty position as Her Majesty's representative in this great province. It was a fitting tribute to his tireless contribution to our system of parliamentary democracy, so well chronicled by the Premier today.

Aside from his political career, he gained great respect as a businessman and horseman of some note. He knew his horses very well, I am told. Someone told me he gained some knowledge of the anatomy of those horses from his attendance in this House.

It is for his devotion to the people of Ontario that he will be remembered by us all. I join the Premier in expressing to his very distinguished children our sympathies, as well as congratulations for having such a wonderful father.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, in a very real sense we are here not to mourn but to celebrate a remarkable public life and, as has been pointed out by the Premier, a remarkable private life.

In doing my research on the career of Mr. Rowe, naturally I spoke to my predecessor and the chairman of our caucus, who remembered him well and with affection. He even remembered the 1937 election which, I need not point out, Mr. MacDonald did not contest, but he remembered listening as a student at Queen's University to the radio debates and broadcasts at that time.

I perked up in looking at Mr. Rowe's career, because I realized he served in both the provincial and federal Houses and then left federal politics to take up the leadership of the Conservative Party. Unfortunately, he did not manage to win a seat in the election of 1937 and went back to Ottawa. I do not see any particular parallels in that career; other than the obvious comparison between Mitch Hepburn and the current occupant of the Premier's chair, I cannot see any other comparison.



It is a time of celebration. This is a remarkable person who had a career of tremendous distinction both provincially and federally, one that extended over many decades and many governments. As has been mentioned, he took a great deal of interest in all aspects of life, including the world of sport and recreation.

To the family that is here today, Mrs. Wadds and Mr. Rowe, I want to extend our strongest feelings and warmest best wishes to you on the career of your father, and we join with you in remembering him with affection and respect.

The House adjourned at 4 p.m.

## APPENDIX

## ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS\*

(125 members)

Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament

Lieutenant Governor: Hon. J. B. Aird, OC, QC

Speaker: Hon. John M. Turner

Clerk of the House: Roderick Lewis, QC

- 
- Allen, R. (Hamilton West NDP)  
**Andrewes, Hon. P. W.**, Minister of Energy (Lincoln PC)  
**Ashe, Hon. G. L.**, Minister of Government Services (Durham West PC)  
**Baetz, Hon. R. C.**, Minister of Tourism and Recreation (Ottawa West PC)  
 Barlow, W. W. (Cambridge PC)  
**Bennett, Hon. C. F.**, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Ottawa South PC)  
**Bernier, Hon. L.**, Minister of Northern Affairs (Kenora PC)  
 Birch, M. (Scarborough East PC)  
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\*The lists in this appendix, brought up to date as necessary, are published in Hansard on the first Friday of each month and in the first and last issues of each session.

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No. 2

# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario



**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Thursday, March 22, 1984

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Thursday, March 22, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## COMMISSION ON ELECTION CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENSES

**Mr. Speaker:** Before we begin, I beg to inform the House that I have today laid upon the table the seventh report of the Commission on Election Contributions and Expenses containing recommendations in respect of the indemnities and allowances of members of the assembly.

## INTRODUCTION OF MEMBER FOR STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY

Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Clerk had received from the chief election officer, and laid upon the table, the certificate of a by-election held on December 16, 1983.

Electoral district of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry—Noble Villeneuve; Province of Ontario.

This is to certify that in view of a writ of election dated October 31, 1983, issued by the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor of the province of Ontario and addressed to H. Fay Shaver, Esquire, returning officer for the electoral district of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, for the election of a member to represent the said electoral district of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry in the Legislative Assembly of the province, in the room of Osie S. Villeneuve, Esquire, who, since his election as representative of the said electoral district of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, hath departed this life, Noble Villeneuve, Esquire, has been returned as duly elected as appears by the return of the said writ of election, dated December 23, 1983, which is now lodged of record in my office.

(Signed) Warren R. Bailie, chief election officer; Toronto, March 15, 1984.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present to you and to the House Mr. Noble Villeneuve, member-elect for the electoral district of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, who has taken the oath and signed the roll and now claims the right to take his seat.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let the honourable member take his seat.

Noble Villeneuve, Esquire, member-elect for the electoral district of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, having taken the oath and subscribed the roll, took his seat.

## ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I apologize that I do not have a copy of this statement. It is not really in the form of a policy statement but rather some information I know members of the House will be very pleased to hear.

I am sure members know that this June northern France will be experiencing quite an invasion of veterans and tourists as the 40th anniversary of D-Day is celebrated. Normandy is going all out to celebrate this occasion.

It gives me great pleasure to tell the House that the gentleman who is organizing those ceremonies in Normandy is here with us today. He is a very distinguished parliamentarian. He was a member of the Resistance during the war. Immediately after the war he was appointed a prefect for the Normandy area by General de Gaulle. For 30 years he has been a deputy in the National Assembly in France and was for 10 years in cabinets under General de Gaulle.

Since 1945 he has been the chairman of the D-Day celebrations and has supervised the erection of a number of memorial plaques and seven or eight museums to commemorate the events of all the Allied Forces and particularly the Canadians and citizens of Ontario who took part in those events.

I would like to introduce to you, Mr. Speaker, and to members of the House a very distinguished gentleman and parliamentarian, M. Raymond Triboulet.

I might also indicate that M. Triboulet is being accompanied on this visit by his commander-in-chief, Mr. Gus Goutouski, who is the head of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Canadian Legion branch and the chairman of the D-Day Plus 40 celebrations, organizing the tours for members of the Queen's Own Rifles and others.

2:10 p.m.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of members of my party, I would like to join in welcoming the distinguished gentlemen who are visiting Ontario today and who will be organiz-



ing in Normandy the second invasion of Dieppe, as my honourable friend called it.

Je veux dire que, il y a quelques années, j'ai eu l'opportunité d'assister à l'université de Caen en Normandie. Canadians there were treated with a hospitality unlike any other kind of hospitality I have experienced in the world. So many people remember the liberating forces coming through Normandy at that time, and that hospitality, that sense of generosity, was extended to every Canadian visitor to Normandy all through the great Calvados areas. I remember all the free glasses of Calvados I got just because I was a Canadian. I am grateful, and please extend my gratitude back.

So I am happy to join the House leader in extending our welcome.

**Mr. Rae:** M. le Président, c'est avec un sens de plaisir et d'histoire que nous souhaitons la bienvenue au représentant du gouvernement de la France, ses services concernant la libération non seulement de la France mais la libération de toute l'Europe de la tyrannie nazie et tous les grands événements de l'histoire de notre siècle.

Les liens historiques entre non seulement le Canada mais notre province de l'Ontario et la France, ce sont des liens extrêmement importants et historiques. Il y a des familles dans cette province qui ont des mémoires assez tristes, sortant non seulement de cette Seconde Guerre mondiale mais aussi de la Première Guerre mondiale. Il y a des jeunes Ontariens qui sont, tristement, enterrés dans le territoire de la France. Et alors c'est tellement important que nous nous souvenions surtout des liens, des sentiments fraternels qui sont si importants entre l'Ontario, le Canada et la France.

Si je peux ajouter un mot personnel, M. le Président, mon père était l'assistant du Général Vanier. En Algérie, pendant la guerre il était un des premiers diplomates à arriver à Paris à l'automne de l'année 1944. Mon frère est né à Paris en 1945, et naturellement c'est pour nous, pour moi personnellement, un moment de souvenir et d'histoire de dire combien le député est bienvenu ici dans notre province et combien est important cet événement.

Mr. Speaker, the liberation of Paris and of France and the liberation of western Europe from the tyranny of Nazi Germany was an event of monumental importance in the history of the 20th century. There are Ontario families who have sad memories because their boys are buried from the First World War and from the Second World War. It is perhaps important that we remember them at this time, that we remember the

tremendous unity in the west, the unity of those who believed in freedom and liberty and who were prepared to pay the ultimate sacrifice in seeing that others would be able to live under the sunshine of freedom in the west.

It is a great pleasure for me to speak on behalf of our party in welcoming the distinguished deputy and to say how very strongly we feel about this wonderful occasion, June 1984.

**Mr. Speaker:** On behalf of all my colleagues in the Legislature and in a very personal sense as well, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you. We are honoured to have you with us.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

### YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. Four weeks ago today in a speech to the Empire Club the Premier created great expectations in the minds of many that he was going to attack vigorously the problem of youth unemployment in our province. The throne speech of yesterday was a feeble response.

I want to know specifically from the Premier now how much he is going to spend and how many jobs he is going to create.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, actually the throne speech was the day before yesterday. I think the throne speech made it quite clear that youth unemployment is a major concern of this government and a major priority of our policy. I indicated to members of the press who were questioning me on this just before the reading of the throne speech by the Lieutenant Governor that the specifics of the monetary allocations would be a part of the budget of the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman).

**Mr. Peterson:** How long do we have to wait? This problem has been of crisis proportions for at least two years in this province. In northwestern Ontario, one in four of our young people has been without work for two years, not just since yesterday. In Toronto, there are 64,500 young people who are unemployed, and it has been going on for two years. In the Hamilton area, west to Brantford, there is 23.5 per cent unemployment; some 25,500 people are without work, and it has been going on for two years.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** How long do we have to wait?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I would only point out to the honourable member, because we have discussed this in the previous session, that the government has already taken very significant initiatives. If



he checks the figures carefully, he will find the numbers of unemployed, while still far from satisfactory, are substantially reduced from a year ago.

As a matter of ongoing policy, the government has already provided substantial funding for young people in job situations. I just say to the member that I made it quite clear in the throne speech, or His Honour did, that this is a very significant priority of the government and that the budget of the Treasurer will deal with the specifics in terms of funding.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, let the Premier not blame the Lieutenant Governor for the contents of the speech. Let him take it on himself.

When there are 176,000 young people who are officially unemployed and many thousands more who are either on welfare or unable to show up in the statistics, why did the government simply say all it was going to do was add to the hotchpotch of existing programs rather than say it is important to start out with a fresh approach and create some new programs which not only would be announced in the speech from the throne but also would have some dollars attached to them rather than have to wait around until May or June for the Treasurer to come up with his budget?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member is using a figure that is perhaps one month out of date. The figure is 163,000, and I am not suggesting that is, by any means, adequate.

I say to the member that I will accept some responsibility, not for the delivery, which I thought was excellent, but for the contents of the throne speech. In his press release to the public, he said he agreed with 50 per cent of it and then decided to delineate that 50 per cent with which he did not agree.

**Mr. Rae:** We agreed with the adjectives.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I just thought I would let the member know that I read those tremendous press releases which somebody prepares for him while he is out walking through the receiving line. I pay very careful attention to them. I would only say to the member that—

**Mr. Foulds:** Really dealing with substance this session, eh?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The member for Port Arthur (Mr. Foulds) should know all about substance. He has never dealt with it in his life, so he should know all about it. I accept those interjections, but perhaps he would let me answer his leader in an

attempt to maintain the dignity for which the member for Port Arthur is always in support, if rarely.

I say to the leader of the New Democratic Party, as I said to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson), that this government has taken already significant steps. We intend to do more. The amount of money and the direction of the programs will be determined in the budget of the Treasurer.

**Mr. Peterson:** The Premier is the one who created the expectations and now he is passing the buck on to the Treasurer, the Lieutenant Governor or anyone else he can find. He quoted the statistics back. He said there were 163,000 unemployed young people. I gave him our regional breakdowns on the basis of special Statistics Canada runs that even he does not have.

Why are the Premier and his government suppressing important information in this whole discussion? Why is he not allowing the Ontario Manpower Commission's labour market outlook to be made public so we can understand the mismatch between the skills training and the demands of the marketplace? Why is he not making that public? Why is he not making public the evaluation of the Ontario career action program, the Ontario youth employment program and other youth envelope programs, so we can have a clear understanding of their effect? Why is his government sitting on this information?

2:20 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It was not too many months ago that we went through the estimates of the various ministries where these programs already exist. I have not had an opportunity to review what members of his party said during discussion of those matters. I would suggest that the Leader of the Opposition might check back, for his own benefit, to see just what constructive criticism his own members had to offer.

I would say to the honourable member that he may have expected certain things as a result of that contribution to the Empire Club. I made it fairly clear that we would be addressing this issue. I do not know whether I referred directly to the throne speech or the budget, but it was quite clear in the throne speech and I made it clear to the press that this is a priority for the government and will be dealt with in the budget of the Treasurer.

#### GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a new question for the Premier. The Premier is no doubt



aware of a pattern of behaviour in his various ministries which is in clear violation of the Manual of Administration of his government. What is his explanation of this ongoing series of violations in his government?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, with great respect, I am not aware of any ongoing series of violations. In a government where administrative contracts, decisions or transactions, which is perhaps the best word, take place at the rate of some 29,000 per day, which is the number of negotiations or transactions on the part of this government, I am aware that from time to time there can be certain deviations from the Manual of Administration.

I would just point out to the Leader of the Opposition, who I know has embarked upon this particular crusade—and we heard rumours about a press conference this morning, but I guess there could not be any agreement as to which brown envelope he was going to use next—he should be very careful. He had better analyse the contents before he uses them.

I just want to review the observations of the Provincial Auditor vis-a-vis those of the—how is he described in Ottawa?—the Auditor General.

**Mr. Bradley:** This is your baby in Ottawa.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I am just trying to put this in perspective for the member for St. Catharines.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Here we are, December 13, 1983—

**Ms. Copps:** We know you would rather be in Ottawa.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Listen, I know that ever since Mr. Trudeau's resignation the members opposite have taken on what they think is a new life.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Just dealing with this, just quoting Kenneth Dye, he says: "The federal government suffers from a lack of political will to cut the cost of its \$89-billion operation. It lacks the real push needed to build a productive public service," and so on. It goes into some greater detail.

I just want to read three quotations from the Provincial Auditor of this province.

"1.3: Indeed, several audits conducted during the past year disclosed no matters of major significance. With certain other audits, although weaknesses and deficiencies were noted, the

program activities and systems reviewed, when taken as a whole, were found to be generally well controlled.

"3.2: While much needs to be done to improve the accountability processes between the government and the recipients of transfer payments, we are encouraged by what we have seen to date.

"4.2: Accountability of crown agencies: In spite of certain shortcomings, we do not believe the situation in Ontario presents the same problems as exist at the federal level."

That is from the Provincial Auditor of this province who has a total overview as to the activities of this government.

**Mr. Peterson:** I would remind the Premier that the Provincial Auditor found there was premeditated and wilful violation of the Manual of Administration in this province right under his nose. We have pointed out to the Premier eight contracts in five ministries using a variety of tricks to beat the Manual of Administration, from splitting up contracts with a Decima situation to \$42,000 for this untendered contract for this unique bookmark; and the list goes on. How many contracts does the Premier have to see before he is going to admit there is a problem and, more important, enforce his own rules?

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind the interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Did the member for Halton-Burlington (Mr. J. A. Reed) have something he wanted to ask?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** No.

**Mr. Bradley:** I am listening.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** What did the member for St. Catharines say? Oh, I see; all right.

The Leader of the Opposition asked, "How many contracts?" As I pointed out, there are 29,000. They are not all contracts but transactions done by public servants in this province five days a week. I have never said that out of that number, which if multiplied by the number of days would be getting into the hundreds of thousands, there had not been situations where the Manual of Administration may not have been strictly adhered to. No one is going to argue that.

I would say to the member that if he looked at it on balance in terms of the accounting procedures of this government, its accountability and the numbers of situations that have emerged in so many other jurisdictions, the affairs of this province are extremely well managed from that standpoint. If the Leader of the Opposition has other things he wishes to bring to our attention,



and I am sure his researchers are hard at work finding them, I hope he will feel free to do so.

The Chairman of Management Board of Cabinet (Mr. McCague) announced yesterday that the firm of Price Waterhouse and Canada Consulting Group have been retained by the government to review the accountability process to see if there are ways and means by which we can improve it. I have said on many occasions that we do not pretend to represent perfection in everything we do. If there are constructive ways and means of improving the process, this government has a record of improving situations where we think an improvement is necessary, and this will be the case again.

**Mr. Philip:** Mr. Speaker, it has taken six years for the Chairman of Management Board finally to hire an outside contractor to find out exactly why he is not doing his job properly. Is the Prime Minister not ashamed of the fact that on page 27 of the speech from the throne—

Interjections.

**Mr. Martel:** That was a Freudian slip. He knew the Premier wanted it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Philip:** Does the Premier not see the hypocrisy in preaching to municipalities and other bodies that receive provincial funding about value-for-money auditing when the Provincial Auditor has shown time and time again that value-for-money auditing has not been implemented by this government, be it with Ontario Hydro, be it with Ontario government advertising, be it with the mismanagement of Ontario Place and, indeed, the fraud in that body, be it with Minaki Lodge or be it with the land acquisition at Cayuga? Why is he preaching to municipalities and other bodies when he has not cleaned up his own act?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I would make one or two general observations to the member for Etobicoke. I am quite prepared to measure our performance in terms of how we manage our affairs in this province against any level of government anywhere in this country. I say that without any hesitation.

The part that disturbs me a little bit is the tenor of the question from the Leader of the Opposition, as supplemented by the member for Etobicoke. They create the impression there are a number of people in the public service of this province who are wilfully breaking the rules. I have no hesitation in saying I have confidence in the public servants in this province. They are able, competent and dedicated and it is time some

of the members across the House stopped crucifying them and recognized what a great job they do.

I know the Leader of the Opposition has his hit list. I know he is going to fire all these people if he ever assumes office. The only thing is he will never get the chance.

**Mr. Peterson:** It is interesting. Obviously, the Premier was quoting the Provincial Auditor, who accused one of the Premier's cronies of wilful violation of the Manual of Administration—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:**—and the Premier chose to make a human sacrifice in that case rather than get to the bottom of the whole matter. He still will not come forward with it.

I was very interested in the Chairman of Management Board's Wasaga Beach confession wherein he went public and admitted he had absolutely no idea of what his responsibilities were or what he was doing. Now the government is spending—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** —\$390,000 as a trick to evade the responsibility of enforcement of the current rule.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Question, please.

2:30 p.m.

**Mr. Peterson:** My question, just in time, Mr. Speaker, is how could the Premier be happy with a ministry such as the Ministry of Correctional Services that has had an untendered contract since 1976 with Montfort Blanchet and Associates? It now totals some \$327,000 and is in clear violation of the government's own Manual of Administration. How can he explain that? When is he going to take the problem seriously?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I have always taken problems seriously, but unlike the Leader of the Opposition never myself, which is something he might learn some day.

The Leader of the Opposition uses very unfortunate terminology when he suggests this is a trick by the Chairman of Management Board of Cabinet. That is the kind of terminology, the kind of attitude, that has led him to such a high viewing and visibility level by the public of this province.

When he gets out press reports that he is going to fire most of the senior public servants, he reminds me of Mitch Hepburn. The Leader of the Opposition knows where he led his party. They have never recovered from it.

I am not aware of the particular situation which I assume the Leader of the Opposition was



thinking of having a press conference about this morning, but decided not to. I will be delighted to have the minister take a look at it.

**Mr. Ruprecht:** Mitch Hepburn will ride again.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Really? Is that what you are looking for?

**Mr. McClellan:** Hepburn for leader. Ruprecht for leader.

Interjections.

### HOUSING PROGRAMS

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, it is all a question of what form he will take when he does.

My question is for the Minister responsible for Women's Issues in the cabinet, the Deputy Premier. Given the amount of windy rhetoric in the speech from the throne with respect to advancing the position of women in Ontario, given the almost complete absence of substance with respect to any new measures to redress the real inequalities that exist, given the fact there has been no advancement in terms of social housing in the province and no mention of social housing in the entire speech from the throne at a time when there are more people on the waiting list for the Ontario Housing Corp. than at any other time, and given the majority of people on the waiting list for Ontario Housing on the family lists are women who are responsible for the raising of children, how could the Deputy Premier sit back and let a speech from the throne go through which said nothing about social housing and did nothing to end the systemic discrimination against women who face this tremendous barrier to fair housing in Ontario.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, obviously, I have to take exception to the preamble to that question. Those of us who had the privilege of hearing the honourable leader of the third party on Metro Morning today came away with the impression that perhaps he was not overly satisfied with all the contents of the speech from the throne.

**Mr. Foulds:** Don't break your finger.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** In fact, the interviewer was so overwhelmed he started to refer to the leader of the third party as "Bobby," which may be some indication of how responsible he felt his attitude was.

Having said that, let me tell him this: this government led by Bill Davis takes a back seat to no one with respect to its commitment to equality, equity and fairness as far as women are

concerned. The record shouts pretty loudly with respect to that.

**Mr. McClellan:** Is it in your finger? Where is the housing?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Just in case he missed these things in the speech from the throne, I draw his attention to the fact there were many references with respect to what we intend to do to take further steps, not only to talk about these principles but to deliver some specific programs with respect to them.

I am quite satisfied as I move around in the discharge of my responsibilities that responsible women know this administration will continue to take positive steps in the field of affirmative action with respect to pay, with respect to pensions, as far as personal security is concerned and with respect to the welfare of women who are the victims of social abuse. I think he would do us all a favour if he joined with us in making sure these causes are advanced rather than being so irresponsible in his attitude to all these things.

Surely, there can be no objection to the overall objective with respect to this whole area of public responsibility, that of fairness, justice and equity. I would simply ask: "Why don't you join us? Why do you take so much time and spend so much energy on all these matters without joining and giving some particular impetus to it? Why don't you phone Joe Coté and take back everything you said on the radio this morning?"

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** Unless there was housing in the minister's finger, I did not hear a single word in all that bluster, muster and puffter that came out of the minister's mouth about social housing, which was the question I was directing to him.

I would like to point out that Ontario Housing will not accept an application for housing from a woman who wants to separate from her husband but who has not yet done so; Ontario Housing will not place a pregnant woman, without other children, on the waiting list until the baby is born; Ontario Housing units for couples must always be co-signed in the lease. Women are thus discriminated against for any problems the husband has created. There are countless examples of ways in which Ontario Housing systematically discriminates against women.

How can the minister so compromise himself as to claim to be a spokesman for women in this province when he let a speech from the throne go through which says nothing about the very real



barriers to access to housing that exist for women in the province today?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I do not feel compromised in any way. I have been a member of this government for many years and I am proud of its record in all aspects, including housing.

The member does a great disservice when he tries to suggest otherwise to the women of this province. From time to time he should realize we are speaking to a very large constituency, and a speech from the throne is not the only document nor supposed to be all-inclusive with respect to programs. There is an ongoing program, and I am sure the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett), supported by whatever initiatives the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) will have in his budget, will continue to respond.

It is not as if we just discovered this problem yesterday, as the leader of the third party apparently has. He should look at the record of this administration in providing housing for the people and he should keep that in some context. I really feel under the circumstances he does not provide a very valuable service by ignoring the contributions that have been made and not recognizing the fact there will be further steps and further initiatives with respect to this very important social need.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, is the minister not a little concerned when representatives from municipalities across this province, including the mayors of Toronto and Ottawa, have to come to this government begging on their hands and knees for money for social housing in the major urban centres across this province? As the minister responsible for the issues affecting women, who are waiting on very long waiting lists to get into places in Metropolitan Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton and other cities, does he not feel a little bit concerned and responsible?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I am sure there are a number of people on lists. I am a member of this Legislature. I have a constituency office and I know the concerns with respect to housing. I also know that people are very reasonable and approach these problems understanding that the solutions do take time and resources. It is not as if we are not providing some accommodation.

If the member were really interested in an answer to that question, she would direct it to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing so he could explain exactly what the program is in that regard.

**Mr. Rae:** That is a complete waste of time and the minister knows it. Why does the government not get a minister of housing?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** As a final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, I would like to tell the minister this, in case he does not know it. I am going to give him a particular case because it dramatizes exactly what is happening to women in the province today with respect to housing.

Ontario Housing Corp. does not place applicants on priority waiting lists until they have custody of their children. The case is of a woman who has been in touch with us by the name of Karen Pearston, who is a single mother in Toronto with daughters aged three and six. She applied for OHC accommodation in July 1983, at which time she had custody of her children.

In July 1983 she was evicted from her cockroach-infested apartment so the owners could renovate; so she temporarily gave care of her children to her husband. At that time, she lost custody of her children because of the simple fact she did not have adequate accommodation and adequate housing. Ontario Housing Corp. turned around and said, "We cannot put you on the priority waiting list because you do not have custody of your children."

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

2:40 p.m.

**Mr. Rae:** That is the reality in Ontario for a great number of women, not for affluent people but for people who are down and out because of the recession this government has presided over for so damned long.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** How can the Deputy Premier, as the minister who is supposed to be the advocate in cabinet for the women of this province, tolerate a situation with respect to social housing that is actively discriminating against women who want to have custody of their children?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, if the honourable leader of the third party was really legitimately concerned in that particular case and others, why has he waited until Thursday, March 22, to bring this to the attention of the government when he could have picked up a telephone—

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** He has not waited.

**Mr. Rae:** We told you about it before.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** This is the old stunt: the individual cases. Why does the member not do what every other member does? They pick up a telephone, call the minister and say: "I have a particular problem here. What are you going to



do about it?" instead of trying to grandstand in front of all these people with respect to this issue.

**Mr. Rae:** We told you about it before.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** You are the questioner; you are bringing it up. Never mind trying to transfer it to somebody else.

Does the member realize it all depends on how one looks at these things?

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: That matter has been raised with the ministry, as have most of the other cases that have been raised, and not a damned thing has been done about it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The Deputy Premier, on the original question, please.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** The question is, how do you want to look at the record. Maybe members of the House would like to know that in our province, which has always responded to its social responsibilities, there are now 115,000 rent-supplement units. One out of every 10 rental units in Ontario is rent geared to income, and in Metropolitan Toronto alone it is one in every seven.

That is a record we should take some pleasure in. There is more to be done, but it all depends on whether the member wants to concentrate on it in the context of making some political showmanship or whether he wants to start dealing with individual programs with the ministers.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** People are suffering and you know it. While people are suffering, you should not be happy.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Does the member not think he is going to get a little overexcited?

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** No, I am not, damn it; but a lot of people are hurting out there.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Just relax.

#### RETUBING OF NUCLEAR REACTORS

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my next question is for the Premier. Another dramatic—and, indeed, I think most people would feel amazing—omission from the speech from the throne was any mention of Ontario Hydro. Here we have a utility whose debt is enormous, which announced a few short days ago that it intends to retube Pickering units 1 and 2 for \$700 million and which announced a short time ago that it was going to be doing some testing on the tubes at Pickering unit 3—which are made of a different substance, as I am sure the Premier knows. This raises the question of whether there is not a generic problem with the pressure tubes throughout the entire system.

If it is necessary to replace the pressure tubes throughout the system, it will cost \$2.8 billion of publicly guaranteed moneys that are going to have to be paid for by the people of this province one way or another.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** Why was there absolutely no mention in the speech of this problem and this tremendous challenge facing the province? Can the Premier tell us what the implications are of the decision to make the tests at Pickering unit 3 as well as to close down units 1 and 2 and replace the tubes?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister of Energy (Mr. Andrewes), who will be here a little later if he has not arrived yet, will be—

**Mr. McClellan:** It is later already.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I understand the member for Bellwoods (Mr. McClellan) but I will not let him—

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Yes, some of his people were away for the throne speech on Tuesday.

**Mr. McClellan:** We are not ministers.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Yes.

I would say to the leader of the New Democratic Party that I am not really sure what he expected His Honour to include in the throne speech with respect to Hydro. He could have stated that Ontario Hydro is one of the most efficient producers of electrical energy in North America; that, in spite of problems that have emerged over a number of years, compared to just about any other utility in North America its rates are still the lowest and its efficiency rates are still the highest; that we as consumers in this province are getting the benefit of that wise leadership and direction over a period of years. He could have stated that very factually and he would have been correct.

If the leader of the New Democratic Party is asking me whether Hydro should or should not be replacing the tubes in units 1 and 2, I am sure he assumes that Hydro is making the right decision in making those replacements. I think the leader of the New Democratic Party knows from his study of Hydro that Hydro had already contemplated the replacement of those tubes from day one, probably two years later than what is going on at present. Eight years ago things were going so well that I think they postponed the retubing and the financing thereof until roughly 1990, and they have made a decision to retube those two units.



As I recall, units 1 and 2 at Pickering rank sixth and eighth in efficiency on a total world scale, and that is among a lot of generating units in the total world community. The decision by Hydro to retube those units—properly, I think, in this case—will in fact be the appropriate decision.

**Mr. Rae:** That was not my question. My question was what is the implication of the decision to test the tubes at unit 3, which has implications for every single tube throughout the system.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: The member's question was why did His Honour not have something to say about it in the throne speech.

**Mr. Speaker:** Supplementary, please.

**Mr. Rae:** The Premier was not listening to the whole question; that is all I can say. I think the Premier is a little out of touch with what is happening in Ontario Hydro and what is going on there, and yet the cost implications for the whole province are quite simply enormous.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** Given the fact that the workers at Ontario Hydro have requested a significant reduction in the permissible exposure levels to radiation, can the Premier give us a firm guarantee that the workers at Ontario Hydro will not be required to get involved in the exposure to radiation that is going to be involved in the retubing until there has been a firm decision with respect to permissible levels?

Can he give a guarantee that this will not be done without the permission and without the informed consent of every worker who is being asked and expected to expose himself to radiation because of the decision by Ontario Hydro to go ahead with the replacements?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The member says I am not totally up to date on what is happening at Hydro. I would confess I do not know everything that goes on in Ontario Hydro; I do not pretend to be that knowledgeable and I say with the greatest of respect that I doubt he is either. I do not say that critically, I just say it factually.

I do recall the second part of the question—because the first part of his question really did relate to the throne speech, in all fairness—as to whether or not they should be testing in units 3 and 4. I think it is just unit 3.

The material used in unit 3—he is quite right—is different. They are relatively confident that the same problems will not emerge, but the member opposite would be the first one to be critical if they did not make that sort of test or survey.

With respect to the safety of the work force at Ontario Hydro, if we go back once again to the history of that organization I do not think we will find management at Ontario Hydro exposing the workers to hazards in any manner, shape or form. What has never been recognized in this current situation at Ontario Hydro is that it has been able to develop on a very rapid basis some very new and sophisticated technology for the removal of the tubes, something that was never really totally appreciated.

I think Hydro's record on the safety of its employees will measure up to that of any comparable institution anywhere. I cannot give all the guarantees the member wishes. I am not that familiar with it, except to say I am confident that Ontario Hydro is not going to expose its employees to any sort of hazard.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, is the Premier aware that there are 1,800 garter springs out of place in Bruce units 5, 6 and 7? This means that roughly 31 per cent of all the spacers in these reactors are not in the places they are supposed to be. The Premier will be aware that this was the cause of the original problem in Pickering units 1 and 2.

Is he aware of the problem? What is he doing to examine it? Is it a generic problem running through all of the reactors?

2:50 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I think this question has already been asked on a previous occasion. Have I examined the problem? The answer is no. Am I confident that Ontario Hydro can deal with this problem effectively? The answer is yes.

**Mr. Rae:** It is really astonishing that a technical problem of such severity would be experienced in what the Tory government has decided will become a—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question please.

**Mr. Rae:** —critical engine in the energy system and that the Premier would be entirely unaware of exactly what that problem is. He can be briefed by Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. and lots of people. It amazes me that the Premier has chosen to remain ignorant of what is a critical problem.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question please.

**Mr. Rae:** Given the implications for health and safety and the financial implications of this retubing problem for the entire hydroelectric system in this province, why is he so reluctant to establish a public inquiry to deal with both the



health and safety problem and the question of financial implications?

Every other utility in North America is facing up to the new reality with respect to the real cost of nuclear power. Why is the Premier not prepared to face up to that reality?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I do not intend to answer for every other utility in North America. I leave that for the honourable member's studies and assessment. I point out to the member that if he read very carefully the release from Ontario Hydro, it made it abundantly clear that in terms of any hazards to the workers they would be well within the guidelines set down by the Atomic Energy Control Board.

**Mr. Rae:** Those are the ones that are the subject of dispute just now.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I do not pretend to be familiar with the total operation of Hydro, as I said, but I know a wee bit, perhaps more than the member does, about this problem. The question of having a public inquiry is totally ludicrous. To me, examination or discussion by a committee in the Legislature has greater appeal, but to have a public inquiry with respect to—

**Mr. Martel:** You have demonstrated that for four years.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Just be patient. The member's former leader, the academic at—

**Mr. Foulds:** You killed the committee.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Oh, sure. Some of those members went into that Hydro committee and came out singing a different tune after they allowed themselves to be somewhat educated; a totally different tune. They should read what they themselves said.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The Premier will answer the original question, please.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** What was the original question?

I will just summarize my observations by saying that we do not contemplate having a public inquiry of the nature the leader of the New Democratic Party suggests.

#### ALGONQUIN COLLEGE

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, I have a new question for the Minister of Colleges and Universities concerning Algonquin College in Ottawa. The minister will know that since this House last met in December 1983, there have been some extraordinary happenings and some remarkable revelations about the administration

of Algonquin College, the largest of our provincial community colleges.

Will the minister rise in her place this afternoon and report to this assembly on her latest information about the current state of administration with respect to Algonquin College in Ottawa, with particular reference to the issue of overfunding and what it is intended be done about the extraordinary conduct of Mr. E. L. Huang in the financial management program?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure it would be appropriate for me to make any statement, even within this Legislature, about a matter which is currently under investigation by the police and which may lead to some court procedure. I do not know because I have not consulted with the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) about whether it would be appropriate to do that or not, but I will certainly tell the honourable member about what is happening at Algonquin College.

As the member knows, there has been an appointment of the assistant deputy minister, skills development division, as an ex officio member of the board of governors of Algonquin College. He or his delegate has attended every board meeting and every committee meeting of the board since that appointment was made in January. He has been providing advice on the restructuring of the management system of the college and there is certainly total commitment on the part of that board to increasing and strengthening all management capabilities within that college specifically. He will be continuing to attend those meetings.

As of today, I have written a letter, which is being delivered right now to the chairman of the board of the college, regarding the question which was asked about the \$2.4-million overpayment to Algonquin on the basis of misinformation regarding enrolment within that college during the period of time the alleged fraudulent behaviour was taking place.

We have sought the advice of the financial advisory group within the college system, which is made up of college administrators, presidents of the college system, some financial people and some people within the ministry. I have also consulted with the presidents of all the colleges. I have followed their advice in this matter and provided that information to the chairman of the board of Algonquin College this afternoon. I believe the total information contained in that letter will be revealed to the public after the board meeting this evening.



**Mr. Conway:** Given the minister's oft-repeated concern about the need for this Legislature and her government to have a better and heightened appreciation for the management of public funds transferred from the provincial government to such agencies as community colleges and given the truly extraordinary and Byzantine reports emanating out of Algonquin College about precisely what has gone on there, particularly in the past two or three years, is the minister prepared to support a recommendation today that would send the Provincial Auditor into Algonquin College to undertake a comprehensive audit of the administration of that \$70-million operation so that the air might be cleared and so that these questions, rumours and allegations, worrisome and many as they are, might be set to rest once and for all by such a neutral referee as the Provincial Auditor who has the interest, and more important, the capacity?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I am not prepared to make that statement today, but it is a matter I have been considering seriously and will report to the House in the future.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Speaker, is the minister not aware that despite the very active participation of her official, Mr. Hunter, who has been sitting in on the meetings of the college board of governors over the course of the last three months, the confidence of the community of Ottawa-Carleton has been severely shaken by the shenanigans and behaviour of the board and the revelations of management problems within Algonquin College?

Will she now undertake and agree to have a public inquiry that could get to the management problems of Algonquin College and could restore credibility and confidence in the community about what is happening there? Since both the minister and the chairman of the board have said they are not opposed, perhaps she can explain why that somehow continues to be blocked by this government.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I think I have said on at least three occasions that I have some concern about the establishment of a public inquiry at this point while the police forces are continuing their investigation. I have some very real concern that the conduct of a public inquiry might jeopardize the investigation and the course of justice in one specific area. When that investigation is completed, I will be considering very seriously the kind of request the member for Ottawa Centre has made on several occasions.

## NURSING HOME CARE

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. The minister may remember that a question was asked in the Legislature regarding Heritage Nursing Home a while back. In that question, we pointed out that in 1980 this nursing home made \$362,000 in profit on revenue of \$2.2 million.

I am wondering if the minister is satisfied that we are getting value for our dollar when one considers that in the September 27, 28 and 29 inspector's reports this home was in violation of 40 areas of the Nursing Homes Act. Those violations included the fact there was no care for a resident who had been living at the home for more than two months, assessment plans had been lost, a call system did not function, live and dead cockroaches were found in several rooms including the kitchen and carpets in several rooms were wrinkled, therefore posing a tripping hazard which is certainly responsible for a lot of broken hips and bones in nursing homes across this province.

Can the minister respond and indicate whether he is satisfied? While the owner of this home is making lots of money, who is protecting the residents and making sure the money that goes from the taxpayers of this province is being spent on the residents to make sure we have quality of care in this nursing home?

**3 p.m.**

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, I am sure the honourable member is aware that we have a very effective staff of inspectors in the branch who are involved on an ongoing basis with all the nursing homes across the province. I do not have before me the inspection report the member is quoting from so as to be able to verify the accuracy of the information. I will accept it as stated for the purposes of this question.

I point out that the member should do an appropriate follow-up on the report he is referring to. He knows the procedure that is followed. A home where there is any violation whatsoever is given a very limited time frame within which to comply or file a compliance report. Further follow-up inspections then take place, and if they have not complied within the time frame specified they face charges. Given the dates the member has quoted in that instance, I assume that has already occurred with that home.

If the member wishes, I am quite willing to do a more detailed review and to report in the House, but that is the normal procedure. There are certainly occasions when things that are totally unacceptable are found. They are not



frequent and they are rare, but they do occur and we respond effectively and quickly to deal with them.

**Mr. Cooke:** How can the minister have so much confidence in homes like Heritage when we know the profit figures they are making? We know that when one is taking that kind of money out of a nursing home, the residents cannot possibly be getting quality care.

Since these inspections, the owner of this nursing home threatened workers by saying he cannot afford them any more and he is looking at contracting out some of this work for \$4 an hour. This will result in a further decline in the quality of care at this nursing home. When is the minister going to realize that when the profit motive is number one, quality of care has to come second?

If the minister has not already been to the nursing home in Thunder Bay run by the Sisters of St. Joseph where, in addition to using all the government's money and residents' money directly for the quality of care of the residents, they have put in another \$250,000 a year of their own money, maybe he should take a look at that nonprofit nursing home and ask himself whether the quality of care in that home can compare in any way to the private, profit-oriented nursing homes this government seems to be married to at the expense of the residents of the nursing homes.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** The member is again falling into his usual pattern of a diatribe based on an ideological commitment and not upon any rational analysis of the system.

One cannot make an equation between the profit motive and quality of care or suggest that one is exclusive of the other. One could go to any number of profit-making nursing homes in this province and see a very high quality of care being provided.

For example, the member may not understand that the profit shown by a given corporation may depend upon a variety of things that have nothing to do with the quality of care, such as whether the facility has a mortgage or whether the mortgage has been discharged. That is a significant factor. Has the member taken the trouble to check into that aspect? I would be surprised if he actually has. That is something of considerable significance along with a variety of other things.

Quality of care is not dependent on the profit-making motive or its absence. As the member knows, the quality of care is often dependent upon much more intangible things, such as the commitment of the individuals involved.

I am not saying those kinds of problems do not exist. They are bound to exist in a complex system such as the nursing home system or the health care system generally across this province. But I assure the member we are committed to eliminating them wherever they exist. If he would like to assist us in that regard whenever he becomes aware of these problems and thinks I may not already be aware of them and addressing them, I am as close as the other end of the telephone if he wants to phone me and raise these. However, I suspect in most instances he would rather sit on them until the opening of the Legislature so he can raise them on the floor of the House.

**Mr. McClellan:** I am glad we do not impute motives in here, because that would be very distressing.

**Mr. Martel:** Let them say anything.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, the issue of quality of care goes far beyond the physical arrangements of any establishment, nursing home or otherwise. The minister's predecessor committed himself to bringing in some legislation governing the whole area of programming for residents in nursing homes. I wonder whether the minister might indicate to the House when he plans to table this legislation.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, as a precedent to any such action, I have indicated it is my intention to conduct a complete review of the nursing home regulations. I hope to be able to initiate that very soon, within the next month. In my opinion, it would be done most effectively by way of a working party and, as well as people within the ministry, probably would involve people external to the ministry, because I could not agree more that many of our regulations, although very well conceived at the time they were introduced, deal with somewhat picayune things relating to physical space requirements and so on. I am not suggesting such aspects be ignored, but we ought to try to find ways to address things that relate more directly to assuring that less tangible thing called the quality of life of the residents, and it is our intention to do so.

#### OIL SPILL

**Mr. Sheppard:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of the Environment a question. Is he aware that 600 gallons of oil were spilled in the Crowe River yesterday by Ontario Hydro? I am wondering what Ontario Hydro is doing about it.



**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased the honourable member has asked that question. Not only is it a good question, but I think I have a good answer for the member.

With respect to what could have been a very serious situation, I am pleased to be able to indicate that the spill essentially has been cleaned up. Ontario Hydro was on the site within half an hour of that spill.

**An hon. member:** Half an hour?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Yes; half an hour. What kind of a response time is that? I want the member to know, as well as the members across the floor, that my ministry is there monitoring the quality of the water to make absolutely certain there is no level of contamination that will affect the residents of that area. Everything is under control.

**Mr. Sheppard:** Will the minister guarantee to me that if the water goes into the town of Campbellford, the drinking water will be safe?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I am pleased the member asked that supplementary. To the best of my knowledge, there are no difficulties with respect to the quality of the drinking water, but as I indicated to the member, the reality is we are monitoring that now. There are no traces of oil slicks on the river whatsoever.

The matter just did happen, as the member knows, and I will provide him with a report as to the actual quality of the water. To the best of our knowledge, the matter is not going to cause any difficulty with the drinking water supply.

**Mr. Elston:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Minister of the Environment might tell us when he expects to be making a decision with respect to the regulations that were initially circulated by his predecessor in the ministry. I understand they are undergoing a long-term review with respect to section 9 of the Environmental Protection Act, which would deal in a formal way with situations such as this one.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, we have the mechanisms to deal reasonably adequately with the type of spill that has occurred in the situation described by the honourable member. As the member is well aware, the big difficulty, and probably the most serious difficulty with respect to section 9 that he was referring to, is the whole question of adequate insurance coverage to cover the private sector. This difficulty has not been overcome at this time by any of the carriers of the private sector, which would have to have some form of insurance coverage.

We are still actively working on the matter to find out whether it can be resolved, but until that very essential and major issue can be covered off by the private corporations and by the insurance industry, it would be irresponsible and totally inappropriate to introduce the kind of amendments that were suggested earlier.

**3:10 p.m.**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**Mr. Elston:** Mr. Speaker, I have another question for the Minister of the Environment with respect to the throne speech. It contained a rather well-hidden section about a commitment to resolving disputes and reducing the costly complexity of the environmental legislation.

Will the minister agree with me that the activity announced in the throne speech represents an attempt by him to reduce the effectiveness of the legislation now in place to the level that is currently witnessed by all of us with respect to the way that legislation is enforced? In other words, he is trying to weaken his commitment, the commitment by his government, to protect the environmental security of this province.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, I want to separate myself entirely from the comments of the honourable member. I in no way intend to weaken the environmental legislation that is on the books in this province; I intend to strengthen it. The process we are talking about, which was referred to in the throne speech, refers to such mechanisms as environmental mediation, which we are already experimenting with, for example, in the Midland area over the Pauzé site.

I see nothing wrong with the concept of attempting to bring community organizations together, to sit down and discuss and attempt to resolve their difficulties and differences of opinion, so they can avoid having to go through a formal court sitting and a very difficult and complex kind of legal confrontation, which in my view is totally unnecessary in this province. Where I can get the community to resolve its problems by sitting down and talking with a level of common sense, I can tell the member that, as one minister of this government, I am going to do it.

**Mr. Elston:** Will the minister make a commitment to us in the House today that if he does bring in the mediation process, he will not eliminate the formal proceedings under which people have been able to operate to this point? That is, if the mediation fails to alleviate the concerns of the public with respect to a program, will he allow



those people to go in front of a hearing, such as the consolidated hearings board, for instance, that met to deal with the Salford situation in Oxford county?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I am quite prepared to give the member that undertaking today. Our intentions are to resolve some of the issues and to remove what might be referred to as the emotional issues, but if there are still substantive issues that have to be resolved by way of the process in place now, it is our intention to continue to use that. I have no difficulty in giving the member that commitment today.

**Mr. Charlton:** Mr. Speaker, can the minister tell us how he envisions this environmental mediation process replacing the public process we now have when in his Midland experiment he is demanding that the participants in that mediation sign documents swearing them to absolute secrecy?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I am not aware of anyone being required or requested to sign documents with respect to the secrecy question. I will certainly look into that. The process itself is not one of attempting to replace the community process I described to the member in answering the previous question. The process is there to resolve some of the issues, I hope by bringing the community together as I indicated. It is not there to replace completely the mechanisms now in place.

## REPORT

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. McLean from the standing committee on general government presented the following report and moved its adoption:

Your committee begs to report the following bill with certain amendments:

Bill 142, An Act respecting the City of Barrie and the Township of Vespra.

**Mr. Breagh:** Mr. Speaker, although it is a bit unusual to speak against a committee report, I want to do so on this one. I object to this bill. The people of Vespra township object to it. The objections were made clear. The response on the part of the government was totally inadequate. I objected to the bill on second reading and I want to do so now.

**Mr. Nixon:** We are going to send it to committee for a little more review, are we not?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not quite sure.

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, it was quite obvious during the hearings only a month and a half ago

that neither the city of Barrie nor the province made a case for annexation. The province is now coming down very hard with its heavy hand on a small municipality, and I do not think that is a reason for this bill to go through.

My colleagues and I very much oppose this bill. We oppose this report as it has been submitted by the standing committee on general government.

**3:20 p.m.**

**Mr. Rotenberg:** Mr. Speaker, as the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breagh) has said, it is very unusual to debate a report, and I will not do so. I simply say I totally reject the nonsense coming from the other side. This bill had a full and fair hearing, and it will have one in committee of the whole House.

The House divided on Mr. McLean's motion, which was agreed to on the following vote:

### Ayes

Andrewes, Ashe, Barlow, Baetz, Bennett, Birch, Brandt, Cousens, Cureatz, Dean, Eaton, Elgie, Eves, Fish, Gillies, Gordon, Gregory, Grossman, Harris, Hennessy, Hodgson, Johnson, J. M., Jones, Kells, Kerr, Kolyn;

Lane, Leluk, MacQuarrie, McCague, McLean, McMurtry, McNeil, Miller, F. S., Mitchell, Norton, Piché, Pollock, Pope, Ramsay, Robinson, Rotenberg, Runciman, Scrivener, Sheppard, Shymko, Snow, Stephenson, B. M., Stevenson, K. R., Taylor, G. W., Timbrell, Treleaven, Villeneuve, Walker, Watson, Welch, Wells, Williams, Wiseman.

### Nays

Allen, Boudria, Bradley, Breagh, Breithaupt, Bryden, Cassidy, Charlton, Conway, Cooke, Copps, Cunningham, Edighoffer, Elston, Epp, Foulds, Grande, Haggerty, Johnston, R. F., Kerrio, Lupusella, Mackenzie, Mancini, Martel;

McClellan, McKessock, Miller, G. I., Newman, Nixon, O'Neil, Peterson, Philip, Rae, Reed, J. A., Riddell, Ruprecht, Ruston, Samis, Sargent, Spensieri, Stokes, Swart, Sweeney, Van Horne, Wildman, Worton, Wrye.

Ayes 59; Nays 47.

Ordered for committee of the whole.

**3:40 p.m.**

## MOTIONS

### DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the member for York Centre (Mr. Cousens) be appointed deputy chairman of committees of the whole House for this session.



Motion agreed to.

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BUSINESS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that private members' ballot items not be taken into consideration until the first Thursday following completion of the throne debate.

Motion agreed to.

## PRIVATE BILLS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that due to the interruption of the consideration of private bill legislation occasioned by the prorogation of the third session of the 32nd parliament, the applications for private legislation related to Bills Pr14, An Act respecting the Yonge-Rosedale Charitable Foundation; Pr37, An Act respecting the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects; Pr41, An Act respecting the City of Hamilton; Pr42, An Act respecting the City of Peterborough; Pr46, An Act respecting the Brockville Rowing Club Inc.; and Pr47, An Act respecting the City of Etobicoke, which received first reading in the third session be considered during the present session without paying further application fees, without publishing further notice of the applications and without lodging further declarations proving publication; and that the application for private legislation related to Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the City of Toronto, be considered during the present session upon the payment of the applicable fees but without publishing further notice and lodging further declarations proving publication.

Motion agreed to.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Mr. Breithaupt moved, seconded by Mr. Conway, first reading of Bill 2, An Act to provide for Freedom of Information and Protection of Individual Privacy.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Speaker, this bill provides a broad and comprehensive scheme for public access to information held by government and protection of individual privacy with respect to information held by government. It was Bill 6 last year. This time it is Bill 2, so we hope we are getting closer and closer.

### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Breithaupt moved, seconded by Mr. Conway, first reading of Bill 3, An Act to amend the Legislative Assembly Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to provide for the appointment of a curator of Queen's Park who will be responsible for advising the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the Lieutenant Governor in Council concerning the conservation, protection and preservation of the heritage of Queen's Park.

This is the fourth time I have introduced this bill. As we are now into the bicentennial theme, I hope the renovation, extension and preservation of the fabric of this building, the most important public building in the province, will receive the attention and support of all members.

## WINE CONTENT AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. Elgie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Baetz, first reading of Bill 4, An Act to amend the Wine Content Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Wine Content Amendment Act, 1984, the sole purpose of which is to extend the application of the existing Wine Content Act from August 31, 1984, to August 31, 1986.

Although considerable progress has been made in the development of high quality Ontario grapes, the industry still needs access to foreign wine for the purpose of blending and it has requested the extension of this act.

## EXTRA-PROVINCIAL CORPORATIONS ACT

Hon. Mr. Elgie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Baetz, first reading of Bill 5, An Act in respect of Extra-Provincial Corporations.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, I have a companion bill that goes with this. If I may, I will make my comments at the end of that bill.

## CORPORATIONS INFORMATION AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. Elgie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Baetz, first reading of Bill 6, An Act to amend the Corporations Information Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, I am introducing two bills affecting corporations, the Extra-Provincial Corporations Act and the Corporations Information Amendment Act. As members may recall, both bills died on the order paper last session.

The proposed laws before the House today are slightly different from those original bills. Minor technical changes were made to address some



concerns raised by honourable colleagues in this House and by the public. I will speak to those changes in a moment.

The main thrust of the Extra-Provincial Corporations Act is to eliminate unnecessary licensing requirements. With the passage of this bill, all Canadian companies incorporated outside Ontario will no longer require an extra-provincial licence to do business here.

At present, by special mutual agreement companies incorporated by the Quebec government, and by virtue of the Constitution companies incorporated by the federal government, do not need this extraprovincial licence to operate in Ontario. However, companies incorporated by other provincial governments do. The new legislation will remove that discrepancy, treating all Canadian corporations equally. Foreign corporations, however, will still require an extraprovincial licence to operate in Ontario.

**3:50 p.m.**

The act will replace part VIII of the existing Corporations Act, updating provisions that have remained essentially unchanged for some 84 years. Among these updated provisions are stiffer penalties for breaches of the act.

As I stressed last fall when I introduced these bills, the dropping of the licensing requirements simply removes unnecessary paperwork without lessening our control over extraprovincial corporations. In fact, the amendments to the Corporations Information Act may actually increase the information that out-of-province companies must file with the ministry. This requirement for extra information, along with two other housekeeping changes, completes the proposed amendments to the Corporations Information Act.

As I mentioned earlier, both corporation bills have been slightly modified. The only change to the Corporations Information Amendment Act is an additional reference to registered office. Three changes were made, however, to the Extra-Provincial Corporations Act. First, the director's power has been narrowed so that classes of corporations rather than individual corporations may be exempted from the act. Second, tribunals have been added to subsection 21(1) of the act. At the present time, if a foreign corporation contravenes the act, it cannot begin or continue proceedings before a tribunal or court. Third, a section in the original bill that would have removed the ultra vires defence by an extraprovincial corporation has been eliminated.

An additional clause has been included giving all extraprovincial corporations that can operate

legally in Ontario the power to acquire, hold and convey any land or interest in the province for their own use or occupation.

#### FAMILY LAW REFORM AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Wrye moved, seconded by Mr. Breithaupt, first reading of Bill 7, An Act to amend the Family Law Reform Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, this bill is intended to ensure that all property owned by one or both spouses is considered a family asset, to be divided equally on divorce or permanent separation unless the spouses have made a domestic contract providing for a different result.

This would apply to pensions, investments in business and professional assets as well as to the matrimonial home and other assets hitherto considered family assets. The court's discretion to divide family assets unequally is limited to cases in which equal division would be inequitable, having regard to the duration of the marriage or the extent to which property was acquired after the spouses separated.

#### LIQUOR CONTROL AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Boudria moved, seconded by Mr. O'Neil, first reading of Bill 8, An Act to amend the Liquor Control Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, this bill would allow the Liquor Control Board of Ontario to permit small independent grocery stores to sell Ontario wines.

#### LIQUOR CONTROL AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Boudria moved, seconded by Mr. Ruston, first reading of Bill 9, An Act to amend the Liquor Control Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, this bill would allow the Liquor Control Board of Ontario to permit small independent grocery stores to sell Ontario beer.

#### HUMAN TISSUE GIFT AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Van Horne moved, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, first reading of Bill 10, An Act to amend the Human Tissue Gift Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Van Horne:** Mr. Speaker, this bill is intended to facilitate the obtaining of human organs for transplant purposes by creating an automated register of the names of all the persons entitled to insured services under the Health



,Insurance Act, indicating whether each person has filed a general or specific consent to post-mortem organ donation, has filed an objection to the procedure, or has done neither. Provision is made for the amendment of the register and for keeping it confidential.

I have presented this theme to the House before. This bill is a more simplified version of that theme, but I do not think a day goes by that we do not hear of the need for organs to help human beings continue life. I very much hope the government gives serious address to this concern in the bill.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

Consideration of the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

Mr. Gordon moved, seconded by Mr. Villeneuve, that an humble address be presented to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To the Honourable John Black Aird, an officer of the Order of Canada, one of Her Majesty's counsel learned in the law, Bachelor of Arts, Doctor of Laws, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the province of Ontario, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has addressed to us.

**4 p.m.**

**Mr. Gordon:** Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to participate in this inaugural debate of the fourth session of the 32nd Parliament of Ontario and to move that this House adopt and support the speech from the throne as delivered to this assembly by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, March 20, 1984.

Today, I find myself in a unique position. After all, it will not be until the year 2084 that any other member will have the opportunity to move the adoption of a throne speech delivered during a centenary year of this great province. I am sure that future member, no doubt a Progressive Conservative, will be as pleased as I am to have that opportunity and will use the occasion, as I intend to do, to reflect briefly on the development and growth of Ontario.

I am sure all members are familiar with, and some may even share, the view that the speech from the throne has become something of a parliamentary anachronism. The throne speech, some argue, has become a mere formality, the meaningless exercise of a tradition no longer

relevant to the conduct of government in the modern political system.

I do not share this view. I believe the throne speech has a role, and an important role, to play in the modern parliament. The speech from the throne and the ensuing debate give the members of this House and the citizens of Ontario the opportunity to evaluate the government's agenda and to take stock of the directions in which the province is headed.

In a society as complex and dynamic as ours, I believe it is vital that we have occasion to pause, even if only for a short while, and reflect on what has been accomplished and what yet remains to be done. It is especially important that we as legislators be able to take a look at the big picture, to remind ourselves that though our differences generate considerable sound and fury we share the common hope of a better, more equitable society for all the people of Ontario.

It is particularly appropriate in this year, the bicentennial of this great province, that we do pause and reflect on the tremendous accomplishments of the people of Ontario over the last 200 years. In so doing, we will pay honour to their memories, express our thanks for their labours, celebrate their achievements and draw strength and confidence from their example.

A wise man once said that our destiny is in our past. If that is the case, then I look to the future of this province with great optimism. Over the past 200 years the people of Ontario have built with courage, perseverance and faith a society founded on respect for the values of individual worth and freedom, respect for individual initiative, the importance of civil order, justice and loyalty, compassion and tolerance. This government has been seen by the people of Ontario to be imbued with those qualities, so much so that in the not too distant past a commitment was made to Sudbury for a full-service cancer treatment centre with all three modalities.

I would venture to say that a Loyalist settler from 1784, if somehow transported to modern Ontario, would find little to remind him of the world he knew. He would, however, recognize in our contemporary citizens that same determination to get the job done, that same self-sufficiency which typified our pioneers.

Whatever challenges await us, I have no doubt that the people of this province will be more than capable of meeting them. I am proud to say that this government in which I am privileged to serve will work in partnership with the people to



further the task begun 200 years ago, the task of making Ontario a better place to live.

I am aware that some members opposite have taken a somewhat cynical view of the celebration of the bicentennial.

**Mr. Kerrio:** No way. The Grits started it off. What is the matter with you?

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Gordon:** Quite frankly, their attitude puts me in mind of H. L. Mencken's definition of a cynic as a man who, when he smells flowers, looks around for a coffin. Between coffins and elections—well, I will not take it any further; I do not want to inflame anybody.

In any event, I would be dismayed by the attitude of some of my friends across the aisle if I did not know that it was not shared by the 96 per cent of Ontario municipalities that have applied for and have been awarded grants to help fund their local festivities.

I would be dismayed if I did not suspect that my Liberal and New Democrat friends will be joining in the celebrations in their home ridings. I am sure, for example, all members of the official opposition and the third party are as honoured and enthused as the members on this side of the House by the planned July visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

The people of Sudbury are very pleased, too, because Her Majesty will be opening a new world-class science centre that is there because of this government's activities, a science centre that will bring tourists from all around the world to Sudbury, as well as create jobs for our people.

I would be dismayed by the attitude of some members if I did not know it grows out of partisan perceptions and not out of any lack of pride in this province and the history of its people.

We in Ontario have much to be proud of and need make no apology for celebrating our accomplishments. Certainly, we have come a long way from the time when anyone could say of Ontario, as one commentator did about what was then Upper Canada, that it is "the very mockery of a province, 300 or 400 families scattered over a country some 400 miles in length, not having any towns and scarcely a village in the province."

From what some obviously considered inauspicious beginnings, we have grown to become a province of some 8.8 million people, over one third of the Canadian population, made up of people from over 70 different ethnocultural groups. I might add that because of the peculiar economic history of Sudbury in mining and

forestry, we have all those 70 ethnic cultural groups. They are the backbone of Sudbury.

From a primary agrarian resource base, we have built a technologically advanced industrial economy and have become a world-class manufacturer and trader. Ontario's economic growth has given its citizens a standard of living and a way of life which is the envy of people around the world.

In more than 200 years we have given to Canada and the world heroes such as Laura Secord and Billy Bishop; scientists such as Banting; athletes like Longboat, Podborski and Gretzky; artists such as Danby and dancers such as Kain. I might add that for athletes from the north we just have to go to Timmins for Frank Mahovlich, to Parry Sound for Bobby Orr and to Sudbury for Eddie Shack. All members will remember Toe Blake and the Montreal Canadiens.

Some of the really great entrepreneurs of Canada came out of the north and Sudbury, such as Desmarais and Campeau, but I will not go on any further about that.

Ontario has given the world basketball and insulin, the telephone and the self-propelled combine, Red Fife wheat and Ontario wine, the electron microscope and the paint roller. I would be remiss if I did not say that Sudbury has also given nickel to Ontario and the world. No one should ever forget that.

Let us not forget that Ontario, in the name of freedom and the defence of our land, has given her sons and daughters in the wars of two centuries. Those valiant men and women who "cloaked their fear in courage" have laid on us a debt we may never repay and through their sacrifice have given real meaning to the motto of this province, "Loyal she began, loyal she remains."

Nearly 200 years ago, Governor John Graves Simcoe wrote in a letter to Sir Joseph Banks that the area we now call Ontario was "for the purpose of commerce, union and power...destined by nature sooner or later to govern that interior world." Governor Simcoe's prophecy would never have been fulfilled were it not for the tireless work and dedicated efforts of millions of people during more than 200 years.

I suppose many of them had no conscious intention of building a great province, but were interested in living their own lives and achieving their own ambitions in a free land. However, the chemistry of shared values and a commitment to common goals has created in this province more than a mere network of economic interests; it created a community.



4:10 p.m.

Historically, governments in Ontario have played a big role in helping to build that community. Just as the British government and the colonial administrators helped the Loyalists settle Ontario 200 years ago, so today does this government work in partnership with the people of Ontario to help them attain their goals and to build a better life.

The partnership of government and people in this province has been and I am confident will continue to be a partnership for prosperity. While I naturally believe that Conservative governments have played that partnership role most capably, I wish to make it clear in a nonpartisan sense to my dear colleagues and to you, Mr. Speaker, that I would not want to demean the very significant contribution which Liberal administrations have made to the people in the progress of this province.

As I have indicated, the people of this province have achieved much in 200 years. Perhaps the greatest achievement of the people of Ontario is that they have built a society remarkable for its civility, to use what some might think an old-fashioned word.

The one constant in our 200 years of history and change is that throughout this period the people and governments of Ontario have, through progressive policies, always worked to build a better society and to conserve those values, traditions and institutions on which our life as a community is founded and which guide our collective search for a better life for all the people of this province.

For 200 years, the people and governments of Ontario have worked to build a better society, a more just society in which people have equal access and equal standing under our laws. They have worked to build a more equitable society, a society in which the principle of equal opportunity is respected and all individuals, regardless of race, creed, sex or country of origin, have the chance to live their own lives, pursue their own goals and contribute to the common good.

They have worked to build a more economically secure society, a society in which freedom of economic choice was preserved, individual initiatives encouraged and individual achievements fairly rewarded. At the same time, it is a society which allows for a constructive and positive role for government in the economic life of Ontario.

It is an admirable part of the character of the people of this province that they would not tolerate the sacrifice of their fellow citizens to the

vagaries of the invisible hand or countenance neglect to protect the purity of some economic theory. Rather, the people of this province have looked to government to provide services and support for citizens who need them, to stimulate development, to intervene sensitively where it was necessary through public action to address iniquities, to protect the consumer or to regulate in the public interest.

The history of this province over the past 200 years has been, most simply, the chronicle of the efforts of the people to build a better society, to make Ontario a better place to live. The results of their efforts are evident all around us, a wealthy, progressive, civil society.

While we today enjoy the benefits of their success, we must also recognize that their labours have placed a responsibility on us to ensure that progressive tradition is continued—I should say “that Progressive Conservative tradition”—and the work of building Ontario be carried on by us with the same dedication, faith and confidence as it was by them.

If we are to meet the challenges ahead, it is imperative that the partnership between government and people which has helped to build Ontario, and the mutual trust on which that partnership is based, be maintained and strengthened.

The speech from the throne makes it clear that this government will continue to provide that progressive and responsible leadership which Ontarians have come to demand and expect. Through this throne speech, the government has demonstrated an understanding of and a real commitment to address the challenges facing this province. The government has shown that it is sensitive to and in sympathy with the hopes and aspirations of the people of Ontario.

Most important, the throne speech outlines an agenda for action which will help Ontario begin its next 200 years of growth and development by building on that partnership between government and people and by continuing that progressive tradition which has made this land the banner province of Canada.

Through its history, Ontario has always been seen as a province of economic opportunity, as a society in which men and made this land the banner province of Canada.

Through its history, Ontario has always been seen as a province of economic opportunity, as a society in which men and women could work, provide for their families and better their lives. The speech from the throne leaves no doubt that this government intends that Ontario will con-



tinue to offer its citizens those opportunities for economic security and betterment.

The 1984 throne speech was delivered in an economic environment that was for the most part considerably brighter and more promising than any in recent years. The throne speech draws our attention to some of the very real improvements we have witnessed in our provincial and national economies over the past 12 months.

The simple fact is that, just as the Canadian economy outpaced most other major industrial economies in growth in 1983, the Ontario economy has recovered from the recession more quickly and more strongly and our recovery has been more broadly based than that experienced in the national economy or in the economy of any other province in Canada. We can attribute our strong rebound from the recession to the inherent strength and resilience of our diversified economy and to the skill and energy of the managers and workers in our private sector.

In all fairness, I believe some of the credit for the improvement in our economy must also be given to the policies and programs introduced by this government. It must be acknowledged that the policies of this government have made a significant contribution to combating the recession and to encouraging economic recovery. The policy of public sector restraint followed by this government since 1975 has helped to minimize the burden of government on our economy and the cost of government to the taxpayers of Ontario. At the same time, the government of Ontario has kept its deficit under control and within responsible limits. By ensuring that the public sector does not dominate Ontario's economy, by stabilizing its deficit, the government has been able to maintain investor confidence and attract job-creating investment to the province.

The inflation restraint programs introduced by the government over the past two years have, in conjunction with similar programs in other Canadian jurisdictions, helped to reduce the inflation rate to the lowest level in over 10 years. In particular, the administered price restraint component of our inflation restraint program must by any objective standard be judged to have been quite successful. This program covered 230 price schedules representing 3,291 administered prices. Price increases in 92 per cent of its schedules were held at or below the five per cent guideline.

Some members on the other side of the House have criticized the administered price restraint program and have concentrated their attack on

those eight per cent of cases where price increases exceeded the guideline. However, their criticisms must be put into perspective. To assess the program properly, one would have to weigh the relative impacts on the Ontario consumer of a decision to allow an increase in the price of admission to an art gallery against a decision not to permit the introduction of GO Transit parking fees during the control year.

I would say, and I am confident most in this House would agree with me, that this government's inflation restraint programs have been effective and have helped to reduce any upward pressure on the rate of inflation that might have been caused by increases in the cost of government and in administered prices.

The economic outlook for Ontario in 1984 is a good one. Those professors of the dismal science, the economists, whose projections are often more dismal than scientific, have cast the bones, consulted the entrails, read their tea leaves or done whatever it is they do, and pronounced that this year will be a good year for Ontario.

According to the 1984 economic projections issued by private forecasting agencies that I have seen, the Ontario economy in the coming year will grow at a rate faster than that of the national economy and faster than that of the economy of any other province in Canada. Ontario's gross provincial product is projected to increase by between 3.9 per cent and 5.6 per cent, depending on which agency's survey one consults.

In any case, all forecasts project that Ontario's economy will expand more rapidly than the Canadian economy. The outlook is also encouraging with respect to manufacturing and export trade, two sectors that are currently leading the recovery, and employment.

**4:20 p.m.**

The speech from the throne notes that though we have experienced real and significant improvements in our economy over the past year, challenges remain that will have to be addressed through responsible leadership and co-operative action. If we are to enjoy sustained growth in this province and create economic opportunities for all our citizens, the leadership and co-operative action we have witnessed in this government will have to proceed and continue.

It is evident from the throne speech that this government is determined those goals will be attained and that the government will work with the private sector to ensure the standard of living of the citizens of this province does not deteriorate. I am particularly encouraged to note



this government has pledged to continue to assist Ontario industries in their efforts to remain competitive and will be introducing programs that will take full advantage of improving economic trends.

Of special interest is the government's plan to work through the Ontario development corporations and our technology centres to assist our small business sector. As my colleagues know, and as was pointed out in the throne speech, small and medium-sized firms create two thirds of all new jobs in our economy. Making those firms more viable and competitive by simplifying financing for new ventures, helping them to acquire high-tech equipment and develop new uses for Canadian high technology, could be the most effective job creation program supported by this government.

It is to be hoped the small business sector will benefit from this government's efforts to encourage a closer working relationship between the financial community and innovators in our economy. The entrepreneurial spirit of small business is the primary engine of growth in our society, yet it is these firms which experience the most difficulty in attracting venture and equity capital.

The government of Ontario, through the small business development corporation program, has moved to address this problem. Although this program has proved to be the most successful of its kind in Canada, any measures that would encourage greater direct, private and institutional investment in this dynamic sector should be welcomed. These initiatives are but the latest demonstration of this government's appreciation of the indispensable contribution which the small business sector makes to the economic wellbeing of Ontario.

The last two provincial budgets created a three-year corporate income tax holiday for small business. In the first year of that program alone, about \$250 million was redirected back into some 60,000 small businesses in Ontario. It is significant to note that the federal Liberal government in its last budget apparently has come to share this government's perception of both the importance of the small business sector and the need to develop a positive relationship with the Canadian private sector.

The federal government appears to have discovered the importance of partnership in much the same manner as it had earlier discovered the need for restraint; that is to say, much later than the government of Ontario, perhaps too late for the good of the economy and only when

the consequences of its own mismanagement had become obvious even to the Liberal cabinet.

It fairly boggles the mind that the federal Liberal government, which for years appeared as the adversary of the private sector, an attitude nowhere better expressed and exemplified than in its disastrous budget of 1981, should now advance the olive branch in the name of national economic salvation. Still, we must be willing to give the benefit of the doubt in this case.

This government has indicated on a number of occasions, and again in the throne speech, that it is willing to work with the federal government in the pursuit of national goals. While the federal government may suffer from a credibility gap in its expressed desire for a partnership with the private sector, the government of Ontario is not so compromised.

We have always enjoyed a constructive and positive relationship with the private sector in this province. We have enjoyed that relationship because this government has consistently adopted policies that enable the government to co-operate constructively, not destructively interfere, with the private sector; policies that assist, not hinder, private sector growth.

This partnership has played an integral part in Ontario's economic development in the past and will, it is clear, play a critical role in meeting those economic challenges identified in the throne speech. For that reason, in my opinion it is quite appropriate that this government should convene a Conference on Ontario's Economic Future and invite business and labour in this province to sit down with government for a frank and fruitful exchange of ideas on matters of mutual concern and interest.

There is no question that improving the competitiveness and productivity of Ontario's economy and industrial system will require an concerted effort from all parties. In my opinion, the Conference on Ontario's Economic Future will be the launching pad for that co-ordinated effort. It will provide us with the opportunity to identify common interests and to devise a joint strategy with input from all parties as to how our resources might be employed most efficiently and effectively to achieve our common goals.

I am sure all members agree it is imperative that organized labour participate in these consultations. Labour has many legitimate concerns about the impact of high technology, industrial strategies and government policies on its members. I would hope labour would take advantage of the opportunity to raise those issues in a forum



that would allow for their discussion in a most comprehensive manner.

Our economy, like any other, is influenced by factors over which this government has no control or jurisdiction. A return to high interest rates could have a serious, negative impact on the economic future of this province and this country. Unfortunately, the government of Ontario cannot determine the level of American interest rates or the size of the American deficit.

What we can do and have done is to keep our own House in order. The throne speech makes it clear that we will do so in the future. It makes it clear that the responsible management by this government which helped our economy through a severe recession and which encouraged recovery will continue. Most important, the throne speech leaves no doubt that the government will seek to broaden its partnership with labour and business and to build a vigorous and strong economy.

In our society we have developed something of a schizophrenic attitude towards work, towards having a job. I am willing to admit there are qualitatively different types of work—meaningful and meaningless work, for example. I also accept that the connection between working and having a job is tenuous in some cases. As someone once observed, some people stop looking for work the minute they find a job.

However, once those qualifications have been made, the fact remains that in our society we have two views of working. On the one hand, we see having a job as an economic necessity, a means of earning a living wage and a means to any number of different ends. On the other hand, we see work—having a job—as a social or even moral necessity.

Through work we define ourselves, become involved in and contribute to our society. It is because work is an economic necessity that unemployment is an economic problem. It is because work is a social necessity that unemployment, especially among the young, is a social tragedy.

Every member in this House knows that unemployment, not only youth unemployment but also the problem of the mature worker, is the major problem in our economy today. As the member for Sudbury I have to say that we in Sudbury are particularly conscious of that fact.

Youth unemployment is particularly troubling and disturbing because of its potential social consequences. As is stated in the throne speech, to countenance massive youth unemployment for

long would be unconscionable and would diminish Ontario's future vigour.

It is quite obvious that alleviating youth unemployment is one of the top priorities of this government. Historically, the job creation record of the Ontario economy is quite impressive. Between 1975 and 1980, for example, the Ontario economy generated a total of some 544,000 new jobs, an average of more than 90,000 a year. During that period our unemployment rate was consistently below national levels, which is something of an accomplishment when one considers that increases in Ontario's participation rates and overall labour force growth were not only the highest in Canada but also among the highest in the western industrial world.

**4:30 p.m.**

Our economy was not immune to the impact of the recession on employment. Young workers were especially hard hit. Between June 1981 and April 1983, young workers in Ontario lost 166,000 jobs. However, as in other areas, Ontario is leading the nation in job recovery.

For example, by last month Ontario had, from the beginning of the recovery in late 1982, recovered 214,000 jobs, about 97 per cent of all the jobs lost in the recession. By comparison, during the same period the Canadian economy had recovered about 75 per cent of the jobs lost in the recession; so it is easy to see how well we have done here in Ontario. As a consequence of our better performance, our unemployment rate in February stood at 9.1 per cent, more than two percentage points better than the national rate of 11.3 per cent.

**Mr. Wildman:** It is about 17 or 18 per cent in the Sault.

**Mr. Gordon:** I am glad the honourable member brought up that point. In Sudbury, for example, people banded together—labour, business and government—to put together some very positive work programs and, as a result, they were able to employ about 4,000 people during that recession. More than \$12.2 million in Canada-Ontario employment development program funds flowed into that community, and it flowed in because people cared about their neighbours and because this Ontario government met that need. So I do not think the member's criticism there is well founded.

**Mr. Wildman:** Are you saying the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) will not do anything?

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for Sudbury has the floor.



**Mr. Wildman:** What is wrong with the Minister of Labour? He is the member for Sault Ste. Marie.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Gordon:** As is mentioned in the throne speech, the young workers of the province have benefited from the recovery to the extent that the economy created 49,000 jobs for youth during the past year. However, I will not stand here and try to convince the honourable members that this is any cause for great celebration, not when there are more than 170,000 young people in this province looking for work.

To its credit, this government has always recognized that it has a special responsibility to assist young workers in our economy. Over the past year, as members will know, this government invested some \$125 million in seven youth employment programs and other special programs targeted on the young.

In recognition of the seriousness of the problem, the government has given notice in the speech from the throne that it intends to strengthen its commitment in this area. The government will increase funding for the Ontario career action program, which since 1980-81 has received approximately \$57 million in government support and created some 40,200 jobs. The government has also announced its intention to expand the network of youth employment counselling centres across the province to assist young workers to develop the job search skills they will need to compete in the job market.

Perhaps the most important commitment made by the government is that it will consolidate access to its youth job creation programs under one ministry. While this may appear to be simply an administrative change, it is a measure that will ensure we get the best return possible out of the dollars we invest in job creation for young people. By placing the programs under one ministry, the government will make it easier for young people and prospective employers to use the system to find out which programs and services are available and which of the services or programs best meet their needs.

The initiatives announced in the throne speech represent a responsible response to the problems of youth unemployment. Of course, they are not in themselves the final answer to our difficulties in this area. We would deceive the youth of this province and perpetrate a cruel hoax on all unemployed workers if we were to pretend that direct government job creation programs provide the foundation for long-term employment growth in Ontario. High levels of employment will be

achieved only through policies that address the structural aspects of unemployment in our economy, encourage efficient and competitive production in our industries and maintain an environment attractive to investors.

Only when all three of these conditions are met can we realistically expect any real long-term improvement in employment and the generation of permanent, secure, well-paid new jobs. We must strive to achieve our employment goals within the context of those three factors. This means we must not give in to the temptation to adopt quick-fix approaches, which would provide at best only temporary, symptomatic relief and the illusion of progress. Rather, we must accept that improving employment levels requires a long-term effort and the co-operation of the public and private sectors.

Government has a responsibility to help those of our citizens who need assistance in finding employment during the time it takes for long-term solutions to take effect. It is essential that these long-term programs be consistent with our long-term objectives and augment, not detract from, our efforts to achieve those objectives. We would then be fundamentally wrong to introduce short-term programs that would undercut or limit or delay our ability to achieve real long-term improvement in employment.

That being said, I will say to this government, and I am sure I speak for all members in this, it must move quickly to implement the youth employment initiatives announced in the throne speech. An investment in the young people of this province is an investment in the future of Ontario. It is an investment we must make; an investment we cannot afford not to make.

Skills training programs will play a key role in determining the economic future of the province and in determining our ability to exploit new markets, new technologies and new job opportunities. Skills training also will obviously play a major part in our efforts to achieve our employment goals. The existence of a well-trained, skilled labour force is not only attractive to investors and employers but also necessary for improved productivity and competitiveness.

I was therefore pleased to read in the throne speech that the government will be taking steps to expand and co-ordinate its training programs across the province. The government of Ontario already supports such programs as the Ontario training incentive program, the technical upgrading program and the training in business and industry program. These programs and others offer a broad range of skills training opportuni-



ties to the people of the province. In 1983-84, the government of Ontario committed more than \$30 million to provincial training programs.

As a representative of the riding of Sudbury, an area that was particularly hard hit during the recession, I am perhaps more sensitive than most to the need for training programs as a means not only of enhancing employment opportunities but also of furthering economic diversification. I know that in my riding workers, business people and municipal officials are convinced that training programs are absolutely essential for the economic wellbeing of the community. From the throne speech, it is apparent this government will act to meet that need.

Expansion of our training and retraining programs should greatly assist our efforts to positively respond to occupational shifts in the labour market, to strengthen economic development and to help workers, especially young workers who are experiencing difficulty in the current job market.

While our economic outlook may be cause for concern, Ontario's trade performance is cause for pride and optimism. Since the days when our trade consisted mostly of furs and lumber, Ontario has grown to become a world-class trading power. In fact, the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) tells us that in per capita terms Ontario's foreign trade is three times as great as Japan's.

In last year's throne speech, this government undertook the job of doubling Ontario's trade over the next five years. I am told we are actually ahead of schedule in meeting that goal of raising the value of our exported goods to \$60 billion a year by the year 1987.

Under the government's growth plan, the export target for 1983 was set at \$41.1 billion. Preliminary estimates indicate we have surpassed that target by \$500 million.

This very impressive record and performance can be accounted for by two things. First, the spectacular recovery of the automobile industry is currently providing, either directly or indirectly, most of the momentum in our economy. This government has long expressed its belief that our auto industry could compete in a fair-trade environment and has often urged the federal government to take the steps necessary to ensure that conditions of fair competition existed. The performance of the industry has more than justified this government's confidence in it.

It is also gratifying to note that the federal government, in its last throne speech, has responded to the urgings of this House and will

now seek to increase offshore investment in our industry, either directly or by way of content requirements.

**4:40 p.m.**

The second factor which I believe explains Ontario's trade performance is the support this government gives to exporters and the efforts this government invests in developing markets for Ontario products. This is but another example of the partnership that exists between government and the private sector in this province and of how that relationship works to the advantage of all our citizens.

The government helps expand Ontario markets in a myriad of ways too numerous to mention here. However, I would like to call attention to one program, the Ontario export success fund, which has proved to be both extremely popular and extremely effective. As members may remember, the Ontario export success fund was established last November on a trial basis with a budget of \$1 million. The purpose of the fund was to help Ontario companies break into the export field or into new foreign markets.

The response to this government's initiative has been nothing short of phenomenal. As a story in the *Globe and Mail* of March 19, 1984, put it, the export success fund has proved to be "a boon for export-minded companies" in Ontario. To this point, the fund has received more than 250 requests for export assistance totalling at least \$5.5 million. It is estimated that if the \$5.5 million is invested, sales of more than \$100 million may result. That is quite a return to the people of the province.

Although we in Ontario have enjoyed considerable success in foreign trade, this is no time to become complacent. As all members know, world trade is becoming increasingly competitive. We must maintain and expand our trading activity if we are to protect the one million jobs in our economy which are directly and indirectly dependent on exports.

Furthermore, greater trade means more jobs to the people of Ontario. If we can meet our target of \$60 billion in trade—that is, if we can raise our share of international trade from 1.5 per cent to 1.6 per cent—we will create 150,000 more jobs in Ontario.

This government does not intend to lessen its efforts to help Ontario exporters. To ensure that our auto sector remains competitive, this government will help fund retooling projects at Canadian auto parts firms. The government has also announced it will enrich the very popular export success fund. The Minister of Industry and Trade



has already announced the fund will be extended for another 12 months and will receive an additional \$4 million in funding. These are but two of the ways in which the government will work with the people of this province to improve our economy at home by capturing markets abroad.

As I mentioned in my opening remarks, over the course of 200 years the people of this province have dedicated themselves to building a just and equitable society, a society that preserves and expresses those values of fundamental importance to our citizens and our way of life. The throne speech agenda gives this Legislature the opportunity to continue that tradition.

It is quite appropriate in this year, which marks the 75th anniversary of the Ontario Provincial Police, who have given the people of this province excellent service for three quarters of a century and who soon will be giving the people of Sudbury region even better service—a new detachment is being built there, which will mean more jobs and better security—that the government will be working to strengthen law enforcement and to improve the administration of justice in the province.

I am sure all members will be pleased to learn that services for victims and witnesses in our judicial system will be improved. Quite frankly, I believe it is high time we took the measures necessary to ensure that our enforcement and court agencies are made more sensitive to the needs and rights of victims of crime.

Certainly, our concern for the rights of the accused is laudable and proper, but we must not let that concern obscure the fact that we have an equal responsibility to the victim. For far too long victims have perceived themselves as the forgotten people in our justice system, which appeared largely indifferent to their needs. It is time that situation was rectified. Victim justice is as important as criminal justice.

I want to congratulate the government for reaffirming its support for the Ontario Board of Censors and for its intention to introduce whatever legislative changes may be necessary to enable the board to legally do its job of upholding community values. The whole question of the place of censorship in a society that values freedom of speech and freedom of expression is a difficult one, morally as well as legally. However, I get a bit impatient when I hear pornographers wrap themselves in those principles and scream that their rights have been violated when our society moves to exert some degree of control over their trade.

Also, I cannot lend much credence to the view that the censorship of brutal, dehumanizing and degrading pornography is but the thin edge of the wedge which will inevitably lead to the censorship of other forms of expression and, ultimately, to state control of the imagination—the emergence of a thought police.

This domino theory of censorship, as I call it, gives little credit to the intelligence of the people of this province, nor to the very real commitment they have to the value of free speech. I must confess the logic escapes me of the process by which the censorship of violent pornographic films in which human beings, most often women, are depicted as being raped, mutilated, tortured and sometimes portrayed as actually enjoying this treatment leads to the censorship of our daily newspapers or news shows.

I appreciate this is not the time to debate this issue, but I do want to say I am proud that this government has consistently fought to make certain that films publicly displayed in this province respect the values of our community. The pornmongers have built a \$10-billion industry in North America. New technology has made the distribution of their products all the more difficult to control and all the more difficult for our laws to enforce.

The eradication of this social plague will ultimately be accomplished not by the police or by the legislators, but through education in our schools and in our families. In the meantime, our support for the operations of the Ontario Board of Censors will signal that this government, this community, is not willing to tolerate this type of obnoxious garbage. It will demonstrate that this government will not be a silent partner to those who profit from the debasement of human beings.

Finally, this government will continue its efforts to broaden opportunities for all our citizens. Last year the government followed through on its promise to appoint a senior minister to be responsible for women's issues. This year the government will implement additional measures which should open new opportunities for women in both the private and public sectors. At the same time, the government will, through legislation and increased funding, provide better protection for women who are the victims of family violence or marital breakdown.

I have been able to touch on only a few of the many new policies, programs and initiatives which the government has introduced in the throne speech. I have not, for example, been able to deal with the numerous social, community and



education programs outlined in that document. No doubt these matters will be debated by other members.

I opened my remarks with a suggestion that the one constant in Ontario's history has been that our progress towards a more just, more equitable and more economically secure society has been achieved by the efforts of our governments in partnership with our people. That this partnership has accomplished much is obvious to anyone who cares to look around this province. Some idea of what that partnership can accomplish in the future can be gained from this throne speech.

The speech from the throne deserves the support of this House because the programs and the policies it contains guarantee that the great progressive tradition of Ontario will be carried on. The policies and programs of this government will help the people of this province to meet the challenges which face us today and to take advantage of the opportunities open to us tomorrow. We will then build a better future on the great accomplishments of our past.

**4:50 p.m.**

We all know that building a better society is not an easy task, but surely it is our primary task. It is not an easy job, but the men and women who served in this chamber before us did it, and the men and women who lived and worked in Ontario before us did it. They tried and achieved so much. Dare we try to do less?

**Mr. Villeneuve:** Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege, an honour and a pleasure to have been asked to second the motion of the speech from the throne. As all members of this House are well aware, on December 15 last the eastern Ontario riding of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry chose me as the successor to a great man whose career and, indeed, whose whole life revolved around his family, the people of his riding and this very chamber in which we are gathered.

For 35 years the late Osie Villeneuve served faithfully the government of Ontario, the people of Ontario and, in particular, the people of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. He had truly earned the reputation of being dean of this House. I would even suggest that no one before him has had, nor will those of us who follow have, a greater dedication to the people we represent and serve. Osie Villeneuve in his many years as a parliamentarian probably passed through the door of this chamber more often than any other elected politician. His dedication to his family and to the people of his riding is an

example for us all and, may I suggest, an ideal that will not be easily copied.

The task that lies ahead for me, his successor, will not be easy. The kind of assistance I have received from my colleagues—from both sides of the House, I might add—is most appreciated. I can only pledge that I will make an honest and earnest effort to attempt to follow the great tradition of the late Osie Villeneuve.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with you and with my colleagues here in the Legislature some of the character and history of the united counties I am so very proud to represent. The great riding of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry was one of the very first areas of this great province to be settled. The United Empire Loyalists arrived here in approximately 1784 and established communities that prospered and grew. These communities produced many great Canadians. I am thinking now of those who explored and helped to settle not only other parts of Ontario but also other parts of this great country.

The Scottish, Irish, French, English and numerous other cultures found in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry co-exist and complement one another. In my opinion, the people of the united counties serve as an example not only for the rest of Ontario but also for Canada and for the world at large. I am not suggesting that my constituency is Utopia or the land of milk and honey, but I do want to tell members that our problems relating to cultural and linguistic differences are resolved amicably with all sides having respect for one another.

As we all know, the year 1984 will see very exciting events in Ontario. During our bicentennial year we look forward to the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her husband Prince Philip. The royal couple will visit Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry on July 17, which will certainly be a special day for eastern Ontario. In September His Holiness Pope John Paul II will also be visiting Ontario. Yes, the year 1984 will be a most memorable and exciting one for all residents of our province.

Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, as I said, is the oldest established area in the province. This year numerous towns and communities will be celebrating their own birthdays and anniversaries. For example, the town of Williamstown is commemorating its bicentennial. This small eastern Ontario village, situated north of the St. Lawrence River along the shores of the Raisin River, is steeped in history and is as old as our province.



The city of Cornwall, which has just recently hosted the world junior curling championship, is also celebrating its bicentennial. The town of Alexandria is officially 100 years old in 1984 and has numerous activities planned to celebrate this occasion. Several have already taken place in the months of January and February.

I am certainly very honoured to have been chosen as the elected representative on the government's side for that great riding of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. I firmly believe the December 15 by-election provided a clear message that the work of this Legislature, this government and its leader is meeting the needs and the aspirations of the people of Ontario.

We must remember that the riding I represent is steeped in tradition and moral values which have not been swayed or altered over the years to the great degree that some of the more urbanized areas in the province have been influenced. The work ethic is still strong in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, and people are still proud to say they attend the church of their choice on Sunday. People in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry are good, sound, traditional people who will stand up to be counted on all of those issues which they believe to be right from traditional points of view.

Some of our traditions are, of course, more recent than others. In Glengarry county we have for more than 35 years hosted the largest Scottish gathering outside of Scotland itself. I am referring, of course, to the annual Glengarry Highland Games held at Maxville, traditionally on the first weekend in August. May I add that all honourable members of this House are most welcome, be they Scottish or not, on that famous weekend in Glengarry. It is quite a feat for a town such as Maxville, with a population of 800, to sponsor and host a gathering in excess of 25,000 people. Yes, the riding of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry is rich in history and tradition.

M. le Président, il me fait plaisir de vous adresser quelques mots dans la langue française.

Comme vous le savez, la circonscription de Stormont, Dundas et Glengarry englobe de nombreux citoyens de langue française. Comme je l'ai mentionné en anglais, nous avons toujours vécu en harmonie, respectant la tradition, la culture et la religion de nos compatriotes.

Je suis fier de vous dire qu'à Stormont, Dundas et Glengarry nous avons un système qui dessert aussi bien nos Ontariens de langue française que nos Ontariens de langue anglaise.

Nous vivons en réalité le meilleur de deux mondes. Plusieurs de nos résidents actuels ont déménagé de la province du Québec. Nous, les résidents de Stormont, Dundas et Glengarry, les avons accueillis à bras ouverts et espérons que ces gens seront satisfaits d'avoir choisi de demeurer en Ontario et tout particulièrement dans la circonscription que j'ai l'honneur de représenter.

Soyez rassuré, M. le Président, nos liens avec nos voisins de la province du Québec sont toujours les meilleurs.

C'est toujours pour moi, personnellement, un grand plaisir de visiter nos voisins au Québec. A certaines occasions nous allons voir les joutes des Expos, ou nos fameux Canadiens qui ne font pas aussi bien cette année que dans le passé et tout simplement à certaines occasions une visite spéciale.

Je demeure convaincu tout de même que notre système de bilinguisme en Ontario demeure toujours le meilleur de n'importe où ailleurs.

Lors de l'élection partielle du 15 décembre dernier, j'ai eu l'occasion de rencontrer plusieurs de mes électeurs de langue française. Je les ai rassurés à ce moment-là ainsi que je les rassure maintenant que j'ai l'intention de veiller minutieusement à ce que tous nos droits acquis, comme francophones, soient toujours respectés.

Je vois certaines situations se produire ailleurs qu'en Ontario et ce sont des situations dont j'espère ne se produiront jamais ici.

Je crois que l'enchassement serait symbolique tout simplement et qu'à ce moment-là nous perdrons la flexibilité et le potentiel d'améliorer notre situation quand le besoin se fera sentir.

En 1984, la province de l'Ontario célèbre son bicentenaire. J'ai eu l'occasion au début de cette année, de visiter à quelques reprises la ville d'Alexandria qui elle-même célèbre son centenaire.

Il me ferait aussi grand plaisir de revisiter à maintes reprises cette même ville pour célébrer avec eux tout au courant de l'année de 1984.

**5 p.m.**

I would be remiss if I passed up this opportunity without touching upon some of the more recent events that have occurred in my riding. As you may well be aware, Mr. Speaker, agriculture is the mainstay of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry.

For example, the Holstein Friesian cow was first brought to Canada slightly more than 100 years ago, to the very county I reside in. I speak, of course, of Stormont county. Ever since then,



the Holstein has been the strength of eastern Ontario agriculture.

As recently as last week the National Holstein Convention was held in Ottawa. This was the centennial celebration for the Holstein association. The counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry played a very great part in ensuring that the 1984 centennial national convention was a success. One of the residents of my riding was national president during that centennial year and I would like at this time to congratulate publicly the Fawcett family from Winchester and, in particular, the immediate past president of the Holstein Friesian Association of Canada, Allison Fawcett, for a job extremely well done.

Agriculture in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry as we have traditionally known it has changed a great deal in the past number of years. We now have concentrated areas where hogs, poultry and poultry products are intensively produced. We have expanding land areas which are now producing cash crops such as corn, soybeans, small grains and a limited amount of vegetables. Let us not forget the great orchards in the southern section of Dundas county, the home of the McIntosh apple. So famous is this apple and so well has it done over the years that they have now named a very successful computer after it.

As an elected member on this side of the House and as a farmer I can be justly proud of what this government has done and is doing to benefit farming and agriculture in Ontario. The speech from the throne, in this my first year as a member, included a number of initiatives that should be well received now and that should also have long-term future benefits for agriculture.

In his speech, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor touched upon the economic recovery, which is also taking place in the United States and in Europe. He mentioned that this recovery would offer wider export opportunities.

In this, Canada's largest food-producing province, we should remember that agricultural exports also contribute to our trade performance. Last year, when farmers were still suffering from the burden of high interest rates and low commodity prices, this government acted wisely in extending the Ontario farm adjustment assistance program. In all, that program helped over 5,000 hard-hit yet financially viable farmers weather the storm that was threatening their livelihoods. Most of these farmers are still producing today.

This is not to say that with economic recovery farm problems have ended, because they cer-

tainly have not.

**Mr. Stokes:** What about cheese?

**Mr. Villeneuve:** We have lots of that in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, too.

It used to be that when a farmer had a bad year the loss was not so great that it could not be replaced by working harder, cutting some corners, putting off purchases or taking off-farm jobs. Today producers face much higher losses which cannot be made up as easily as they were before, while at the same time agriculture has become a much more capital-intensive business.

It all boils down to the fact that the modern farmer must also be adept in business matters and paperwork. At a recent meeting it was put very well by one of the producers, who said, "If you cannot make it work with a pencil, you will not be able to make it work with the plough." He could not have been more right.

Given this fact, particularly in the last year, more farmers have seen the need for financial counselling and the government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, has acted accordingly. In the last 12 months we have seen the ministry increase its efforts to provide more financial counselling, seminars and lectures. These have provided a very valuable service.

I should also point out, since this government is dedicated to advancing women's rights not just in programs but in the community as well, that women on the farm increasingly must fill the role of business manager or co-manager.

Yet even with all these necessary and beneficial changes to farm financial management, there are producers who often face low and wildly fluctuating commodity prices. For certain commodities, a program that could guarantee at least a minimum return would go a long way to aid farm financial planning in both the short and long term and would also make dealing with banks a lot easier. Such a program would be a lot more effective if it existed in more than one province.

For more than a year, Ontario has been pursuing a national tripartite stabilization plan. Initially, I gather, the proposal was not given a great deal of possibility of success, though most were in favour of the idea. It now appears persistence has paid off and the proposed national stabilization plan for the red meat industry might be a reality by the end of this year.

Another welcome proposal from last year's throne speech, which has become a reality through the efforts of our government, is the beginning farmer's assistance program. This



program can help about 1,000 young people establish themselves as farmers each year for the next five years.

This week's throne speech sees Ontario intensifying efforts to export our agricultural products to the American market. At this point such an effort is a wise one, though I am convinced that in the long-term we will see greater growth potential in the countries of the Pacific Rim, Asia and the Middle East. The only problem is that many of these countries do have debt problems and suffer from the worldwide recession. Right now they cannot afford increased food spending.

By comparison, economic recovery in the United States is further along than in Canada. The money is there and obviously the market is there as well. Today, Ontario has agriculture and food exports totalling \$1.6 billion. I do not know what share my riding has of that but we are close to the border and the value of our agricultural production totals about \$115 million.

In Ontario as a whole, about half our agriculture and food exports are sold to the United States. The proximity of the US market makes for lower transportation costs. A similar culture also makes for a more comfortable environment when it comes to making business deals and discussing product and commodities because of our similar tastes. Language is no problem either because both English and French are spoken there, or at least French is spoken in some parts of the US, such as New Orleans.

Last year the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) organized a very successful trade mission to New Orleans which generated more than \$2.5 million in sales of products such as maple syrup, maple sugar, beer, cheddar cheese, canned ham and apples. Individually, this may not sound like much but over the last five years Ontario food product exports have averaged a growth of 18 per cent. The last two years have not been the best but when compared to the performance of other countries, Ontario has more than held its own.

Ontario's ratio of food exports to goods imports has been generally improving since 1977. We are still running a deficit in our balance of agricultural trade but that situation has been improving. We still have quite a long way to go, but last year we achieved an increase of 18.6 per cent in the value of our food exports to the US. Imports from the US increased as well, but only by 5.8 per cent. As our biggest food trade deficit is with the US, this represents a healthy change and reflects on the quality of our product.

By comparison, our exports to the Pacific Rim increased by in excess of 12 per cent, but we suffered some setbacks in the European Economic Community and Latin American countries such as Argentina and Brazil, both of which have deep financial problems. Trade with Mexico decreased for the same reasons. When we look at specific commodities, we can also see that export sales were down for Ontario tobacco, grain and soybeans.

**5:10 p.m.**

Increasing our trade missions is an important and integral element in achieving our overall goal of an improved balance of trade. In 1982, there were 17 outgoing trade missions sponsored by this government. Last year this was increased to 24. This year, with a continuing effort as described in the speech from the throne, we will see 31 trade missions conducted. Almost half of these will be to the United States, visiting such centres as Los Angeles, Cleveland, Chicago and Washington.

I am told many of the honourable members in this House have the opportunity from time to time to act as unofficial ambassadors to various Caribbean countries and to certain states of the union, particularly when it is cold up here in the north. Perhaps some of these members may have been active during their stay south of here, exerting some influence to ensure the sale of Ontario agricultural products in the jurisdiction they happened to be visiting. If so, as a farmer and producer, I would like to thank them one and all.

On a more serious note, the credit must be split between those businessmen who take part in these sales missions and those in the Ontario government who organize the missions. I do not know if it is customary for members to say what a good job our public servants are doing, but in this case we are talking about a unit of six or seven people to which we can attribute some \$35 million in agricultural sales in 1983 alone. I can see how in many cases it is hard to place a monetary value on a government employee's work. In this case, I am sure we have been getting our money's worth.

I want to touch on another subject related to our goals in improving our export sales. Ontario's overall goal, to reduce our food trade deficit, can only be helped by producing more of what we need here and by making Ontario products available for longer periods of time. Assistance to our food processing industry also makes more products available for export.



Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, like rural constituencies throughout this province, has benefited from Board of Industrial Leadership and Development money, from the Ontario fruit and vegetable storage and packing assistance program. Residents of my riding are also benefiting from BILD's contribution to fund high-technology equipment for Ontario's agricultural colleges. BILD funding for Ontario cream assistance, food processing and whey processing have also been helping the food processing industry.

The food industry has a number of plants located in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry bearing well-known names such as Kraft, Carnation, Nestle and Ault. At Ingleside, Kraft Ltd. is completing a \$10-million expansion program which will create almost 200 jobs. In addition, Kraft has recently received a BILD grant to modernize its whey processing facilities which will create additional jobs as well.

In the great town of Winchester, Ault Foods is receiving BILD funding to install demineralization equipment which will allow it to develop new whey byproducts. BILD is contributing \$500,000 towards the \$3.6-million project, which will replace imports of demineralized whey from the United States and Europe and will be the first facility of its kind in Canada.

I am also pleased to note the announcement of the creation of the Ontario Agricultural Council. While the details regarding the council remain to be spelled out by the Minister of Agriculture and Food, I believe the concept of such a council is excellent.

As those of us from rural constituencies know well, it is often very difficult to establish a consensus regarding the future course to be taken in the various areas of agricultural production. This is not to say there is not a great variety of information sources. However, we have the resources of the ministry itself. We have the long-established and internationally renowned departments at the University of Guelph. We have the vital and growing colleges of agricultural technology across the province, and we have the various federations of producers, processor associations and, let us not forget, our consumer groups.

I think it is fair to say there is no shortage of opinion and advice regarding agriculture and farming. The problem is the co-ordination of the various points of view and an independent assessment of their value to Ontario's future.

As was mentioned in the speech from the throne, the agricultural council of Ontario will be

established to provide research, analysis, commentary and policy alternatives directly to the minister. The members of the council will be drawn from the various aspects of agriculture, from the farm gate to the consumer's table. They will be from all parts of Ontario, but they will not represent any single group or organization. As I understand it, members of council will be asked to serve on the basis of excellence in their own field of endeavour over the past years.

The mandate of the council will be to explore both problems and opportunities in the domain of agriculture and food. Naturally, the council will not be involved in work done by the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Equally, the council will not be involved in research regarding production, for that is the domain of the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario.

In the main, the council will concentrate on the longer-term complex problems, although the minister could refer issues to it at any time. In this regard, the agricultural council would function in an identical fashion to the Ontario Economic Council or the Ontario Council of Health. Both of these councils have provided the government and the people of Ontario with excellent work over the years and I fully expect the agricultural council to achieve these same high standards.

There are problems in the agriculture and food business and the Minister of Agriculture and Food is the first to admit that. The problems, however, are not insurmountable. With co-operation, understanding, proper research, deliberation and consultation throughout the province, we have the collective ability to provide the very best for all Ontario, from the farm to the table.

I believe the agricultural council will play a very significant role in achieving that goal. Let us not forget that less than five per cent of the population of this great province are farmers. They feed us all and employ almost 25 per cent of the work force in a direct and indirect fashion.

While I have concentrated most of my remarks on agriculture, which reflects its importance to my constituency, I do wish also to cover some other points from the throne speech which are significant to my part of the province.

In particular, I welcome the continuing move eastwards of TVOntario. This week it was announced that we will soon see transmitters established in Belleville, Kingston and Peterborough. I do not think the necessary licence or approval from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission will be too difficult to obtain.



I am also looking forward to the results of the technical feasibility study to establish another transmitter so that the residents of my riding and those of Cornwall, Brockville and Prescott will also be able to receive TVOntario coverage in the not-too-distant future.

I could easily go on and tell more about my riding and the good people who live in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. As many of my new colleagues will already know, we have one of the most scenic areas of the entire province in the southern part of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. Here along the St. Lawrence, tourism plays a very important role in the overall economy. In the last 25 years, the St. Lawrence Parks Commission has developed one of the finest parks and recreation areas to be found anywhere.

The tourist industry in this area eagerly awaits the results of the commitment from the throne speech to attract more American tourists and dollars to Ontario.

I would also like to encourage my new colleagues and I hope friends from both sides of the House to consider spending some time in my constituency along the waterfront when it is nice and warm through the summer. I know they will find the experience pleasant and relaxing.

The youth employment and skills training initiative will be welcomed by young people, not just in my riding but across Ontario. During the months of November and December, since my election I have had many opportunities to listen to young people speak of their concerns about finding work.

As a father, I have also heard a great deal about the challenges facing our youth. We have already heard my colleague the member for Sudbury (Mr. Gordon) speak about the government's efforts to train young people and to ensure jobs for them. Knowing that there is no single ideal method to combat youth unemployment, this government has a balanced variety of programs, ranging from direct employment to assistance in setting up businesses.

Our unemployed youth differ greatly from those with few skills. The more skilled workers

who are unable to find jobs have better opportunities. Youth employment counselling centres can to some degree help all of these young people, but those young people with marketable skills will always find it an advantage and use it to the best.

The announcement to extend export apprenticeships will ensure a greater supply of young people with these marketable skills. This provision of skills training and new job opportunities was one of my personal priorities back in December. I am most happy to see that it is also of great importance to this government. I was also glad to see during the election campaign that youth employment had finally become a priority for another party called the Liberal Party of Canada.

From my conversations with employers I know how well received are programs such as the Ontario career action program and the Ontario youth employment program. With the throne speech announcement, even more employers and young people will now have the opportunity to benefit from Ontario career action programs. I strongly believe that as the Ontario economy continues to improve, we should not let up on our skills training programs. As the growth of high technology increases the demand for specialized skills, we must ensure that the youth of our province have every opportunity to receive the training that is required.

I do not want to go on any longer except to say that in the coming days and weeks I very much look forward to meeting and knowing more of my colleagues and to meeting my obligations as a member. I look forward to receiving guidance from the chair and from others who surround me, as their experience is much broader than mine. I wish to emphasize, however, that it will not be political guidance that I seek from my colleagues on the other side of the House.

Again, I am happy to have had the opportunity and the honour to address this House and I look forward to doing so for a good many years.

On motion by Mr. Nixon, the debate was adjourned.

The House adjourned at 5:24 p.m.



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No. 3

# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Friday, March 23, 1984

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Friday, March 23, 1984

The House met at 10 a.m.

Prayers.

## LEGISLATIVE PAGES

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding with routine proceedings, I would like to read into the record the names of the new pages who are with us for this first part of the session. They are:

Diane Arruda, Dovercourt; Jason Bondy, Windsor-Riverside; Claudio Commisso, Lake Nipigon; Robert Fear, Peterborough; Susan Flemming, Timiskaming; Barbara Francis, Perth; Manuela Fryters, Quinte; Michelle Gibson, Brantford; Cynthia Hampson, Burlington South; Tim Hutchinson, York South; Geoff Korz, Hamilton Mountain;

Nicole LeBlanc, Carleton; Heather Lyons, York Mills; Neil MacCarthy, Oriole; Trevor Martel, Sudbury East; Lianne McKeown, Hastings-Peterborough; Dean Memme, St. Catharines; Jennifer Ryan, Riverdale; Christine Thorsteinson, Brock; Rob Wildman, Algoma; Jeffrey Wright, London Centre, and Sava Zjalic, Oakville.

## WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, we have another shining hour for Ontario amateur athletes. This morning I would like to extend our hearty congratulations—and, indeed, I am sure I can speak for all of us in this House—to Barbara Underhill from Oshawa and Paul Martini from Woodbridge, Ontario, for their magnificent achievement in winning the gold medal in the pairs competition of the world figure skating championships at the Ottawa Civic Centre last night.

This is the first gold medal Canada has won in 11 years and the first pairs gold medal since 1962, when the Jelineks, Otto and Maria, won.

In winning the world championships, Underhill and Martini beat the reigning world champions and current Olympic gold medal holders. Coming from behind, these splendid and courageous performers showed great determination, especially in the light of a disappointing finish in Sarajevo at the Olympics.

Once again, on behalf of the government and, I am sure, on behalf of all of us, let me congratulate these two very fine skaters who represented Ontario and Canada so well. We wish them well in their future endeavours.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### ENERGY SUPPLY SYSTEM

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report to the House today on important matters relating to Ontario's energy supply system.

As I have said on numerous occasions since becoming minister, Ontario's electrical system with its Candu nuclear plant is our energy ace in the hole. I will outline today some recent highlights of Ontario Hydro operations—

**Mr. Boudria:** You mean more hot air.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** I am being encouraged by my colleagues to give greater vent to this statement.

I will outline today some recent highlights of Ontario Hydro operations and also indicate some of Ontario Hydro's plans to repair two of its reactors so it will be able to make the record-setting achievements that have characterized Ontario's nuclear program from the outset.

I do not hear much barking about that.

Ontario Hydro's nuclear plants contributed to meeting record system loads last year and a record peak demand of almost 19,000 megawatts on January 12 of this year. During the high demand months of December, January and February, nuclear power supplied almost one third of Ontario's electricity at capacity factors approaching 100 per cent.

The past year has seen a continuation of the reliable operation of Hydro's nuclear plant. During 1983 the average capacity factor of the Bruce A reactors was over 90 per cent and those at Pickering averaged 76 per cent despite the first two units being out of service for a number of months at the end of the year. Pickering unit 5 was commissioned in 1983 and operated at a 92 per cent capacity factor. Unit 6 has recently come into service and is operating well.

Ontario Hydro has also continued to export more electricity than it bought from other utilities and has a healthy revenue from these sales,



which helps offset the cost of electricity to Ontario customers. In 1983 Hydro exported \$447 million worth of electricity to the United States and was able to sell \$46 million worth of electricity in January this year, a peak month for our own consumption of electricity.

Since the Legislature adjourned in December, Ontario Hydro has been going about its business of supplying its customers with reliable, reasonably priced electricity.

Earlier this month the province, borrowing on behalf of Ontario Hydro, readily obtained US\$250 million in the US capital markets. The prospectus filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission contained up-to-date information on the situation at Pickering and on Ontario Hydro's decision to retube units 1 and 2. Clearly, this is a vote of confidence from perhaps the most critical and well-informed capital market in the world. It is a vote of confidence in Ontario, Ontario Hydro and in our Candu nuclear system.

With respect to the first two units at Pickering, Ontario Hydro has continued its investigations into the failure of a pressure tube in Pickering unit 2 in August of last year. In all, 11 tubes have been removed from reactors 1 and 2 and have been examined by Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. at its Chalk River laboratories. In addition, Hydro has inspected many pressure tubes in reactors 1 and 2.

The results of the work generally confirm that there has been embrittlement of pressure tubes during operation. Some tubes have developed blisters where contact between pressure tube and calandria tube has occurred. This contact has been possible because of displaced garter springs which act as spacers between pressure tube and calandria tube.

**10:10 a.m.**

Ontario Hydro has evaluated the options for getting units 1 and 2 back into operation and has concluded that the preferable course of action is to prepare the units immediately for retubing and to make use of the specialized tooling and personnel shielding which has been under development for a number of years. This special equipment, along with decontamination of the systems, will allow the task of tube removal to proceed with low radiation doses to workers, albeit somewhat more slowly than with a fully automated system. Ontario Hydro estimates that an automated system will be available for use early in 1986 and that retubing will be complete by early 1987.

Ontario Hydro has estimated that the cost of doing this work will be about \$420 million. This includes the cost of decontamination and a share of the cost of the special tools and equipment. There has been some concern expressed about the costs, but members should appreciate that by making these repairs, Hydro will be protecting its investment in the rest of the plant and, at the end of the process, will have two nuclear units which have every prospect of a long, productive life in front of them.

Not all of the cost of repair will be put on the electrical customer. The federal and Ontario governments, which joined with Ontario Hydro in the initial venture of building the first two units at Pickering and which have benefited in the past from the excellent performance of these units, will also bear their share of the costs.

During the time these units are not operating, Ontario Hydro will use other sources to meet system demand. The overall impact on electricity customers will not be onerous. In fact, Hydro's estimate for next year is an increase in rates of one per cent.

Ontario Hydro is also taking steps to ensure that new reactors at Bruce, Pickering and Darlington can be brought on line with the expectation of extended lifetimes for their reactor components. There may be work to be done on operating reactors to prolong the useful life of their pressure tubes.

These are complex matters we are dealing with today and it may be that members would wish to have more detail on them. Accordingly, I have written to the chairman of the government caucus, the member for Wellington-Dufferin-Peel (Mr. J. M. Johnson), the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson) and the leader of the New Democratic Party, the member for York South (Mr. Rae), offering to have Ontario Hydro brief caucus members and answer their questions. I hope members will feel that would be worth while.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

### RETUBING OF NUCLEAR REACTORS

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy. I note with great interest that he has acknowledged today that the garter spring problem was probably the cause for the blistering, embrittlement and cracking of the tubes in Pickering units 1 and 2.

Would he today confirm the information we revealed in the House yesterday that there are some 1,800 tubes out of place in Bruce units 5, 6 and 7, that roughly one third of those garter



springs are out of place? Would he confirm that that information is correct? Would he confirm whether or not that is a system-wide, generic problem? What will be the cost of repair in that particular situation?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition has made some estimates that relate to the numbers of garter springs out of place. I can assure him that Ontario Hydro has taken steps to assess the seriousness of this problem.

The concern with respect to the reactors at Bruce that are about to be commissioned is being resolved. The garter springs are being repositioned. It would appear that the movement of garter springs has resulted from work during the construction phase.

With respect to other reactors, as it schedules the downtime for maintenance on other reactors, Ontario Hydro will be taking steps to reposition garter springs.

**Mr. Peterson:** Obviously the minister is not prepared to challenge the figures given in this House, and obviously it is a concern to him. He is not prepared to discuss the costs thereof.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** Let me go on and ask the minister another question supplementary thereto.

We have learned that Ontario Hydro intends to borrow \$64 billion in the next 20 years. We have also learned, according to Ontario Hydro, that there is going to be "severe upward pressure on rate levels" as a result of that and other problems.

By how much will these problems with the pressure tubes affect the rate levels and how great does the minister expect this severe upward pressure on rates to be in the next few years?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** I have made that point clear in my statement. The estimate for the cost of retubing Pickering units 1 and 2 is \$420 million.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps the minister can explain why in his statement he made absolutely no reference to the fact that when Ontario Hydro decided to engage in the retubing of units 1 and 2, they announced simultaneously that they were going to begin the testing of the tubes at unit 3 at Pickering and that this had implications for the rest of the system because of the difference in the alloy used.

Why did the minister not make reference to that fact in his statement since it has real implications for the rest of the system? Can he tell us what is being done with respect to plans for the retubing of the rest of the Pickering reactors

and the reactors at Bruce, and what implications it has for the reactor now being built at Darlington?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** The leader of the third party has raised a rather interesting point. He is correct in his assumption that the alloy used in the reactors other than Pickering units 1 and 2 is different; it is zirc-niobium alloy. Hydro is confident that the problem of hydriding will not be prevalent in that alloy.

With respect to the inspection of unit 3, I think the leader of the third party would want us to be confident that the system will operate efficiently and effectively and I think it is important to make those assessments as there are opportunities during the downtime of a reactor.

**Mr. Peterson:** I would like to get back to the question of the financial soundness of the \$64-billion borrowings over the next 20 years and the implications they have not only for the consumers but for this province as well. The minister is aware that this same internal report says, "The upward pressure on electricity rates may have to be balanced by lower levels of financial soundness for Ontario Hydro."

As the minister knows, the province of Ontario guarantees Ontario Hydro's borrowings. Can we have the minister's guarantee that Ontario Hydro's borrowings will not jeopardize the triple-A credit rating of this province?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** As usual, the Leader of the Opposition has done some creative mathematics. He has been reading the internal reports of Ontario Hydro, which I would suggest to him will perhaps occupy his time from now until his old age if he wishes to read them all. Of course, these reports are prepared by members of the staff of Hydro and they are opinions expressed by members of the staff; they are not necessarily the opinions of the board or senior management of that utility.

With respect to the financial soundness of the company, I referred to the most recent bond issue in my statement. I referred to the reaction of the market after the revelation to that market of all the activities surrounding retubing of Pickering unit 2. I think that reaction speaks for itself, for the financial soundness of the corporation and for the future of that corporation.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I think I should rise on a point of privilege and tell the minister exactly what I am quoting from so he is not mistaken.

**Mr. Speaker:** No. This is question period.



**Mr. Peterson:** It is so significant, and the minister is obviously unaware of it. He would probably adjust his statement if he had read this report of the comptroller's branch of Ontario Hydro—

**Mr. Speaker:** I would call your new question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** —talking about the long-range financial projections of Hydro for the next 20 years.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. New question.

10:20 a.m.

### SKILLS TRAINING

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a new question and I will ask it of the Premier. In the throne speech he created great expectations in the area of skills training. I will go back and remind him of his own words, through the mouth of the Lieutenant Governor: "The measure of competitive world-class investment is...the quality of our performance in manpower training, technology adaptation, trade development and teamwork."

How does the Premier explain the fact that Ontario's contribution to apprenticeship and vocational and occupational training in the year 1971 was \$62 million in actual figures, but by the year 1982 it had declined to \$21 million? In real terms there was a decline and no attention to this issue. How does the Premier explain this decade of neglect of skills training?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition, as is his custom, tends to ignore certain other facts in the posing of his questions. He neglects the amounts being expended through the training in business and industry program and the linkage program. Also, he does not take into account money being spent internally within industry.

In general terms, this is a matter that will be addressed by the government; but in terms of the existing programs, I question whether there is a province in Canada or a state of the union that has been allocating more of its resources than we have towards training or retraining of its personnel, both through retraining or training programs and within the school system.

I point out to the Leader of the Opposition that he cannot single out amounts spent on apprenticeship. In any evaluation of skills training or manpower training in this province, he also has to include many of the dollars being invested by the people of this province in the college system.

I also point out that those moneys are being spent in the college system, which system, incidentally, is superior to any comparable

system in the United States—there are no really valid comparisons in Canada—and where a great deal of the skills training does go on.

**Mr. Martel:** Why do you not talk about skills training in Europe? Why do you not talk about that? You are not even in the ball park.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I would say to the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) that for years his party has made it difficult—

**Mr. Nixon:** Stop patting yourself on the back and give us an answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The Premier will please address his answer to the question.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I was just so tempted to reply to the member for Sudbury East, who has known over the years the reasons for the complexity and difficulty of the apprenticeship training program, but I will get back to the Leader of the Opposition.

I say to the Leader of the Opposition very simply that certainly expectations are created in the throne speech, but over the years we have met those expectations and I expect we will continue to meet those expectations. In fact, my expectation is that those expectations will be met.

**Mr. Peterson:** The figures I quoted to the Premier were Statistics Canada figures and not mine; they related to skills training and not to colleges or universities.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** The Premier said we had the best record in Canada, if not in the western world. Let me remind him of the fact that we have the worst record in Canada by a long shot. This government's expenditure on skills training is \$2.40 per capita. Newfoundland spends 10 times as much as we spend. Let the Premier look at the facts; he is obviously uninformed.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** How does the Premier explain this lack of attention under his stewardship to this most important matter in our province?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** With great respect, in comparing the situation in Newfoundland and how it is treated and how we deal with it here in this province, the Leader of the Opposition's researcher should do a little more homework.

Take Fanshawe College, for instance. I know the Leader of the Opposition visits it regularly; it is close to his riding, and it may even be in his riding. I happen to have a list of the apprenticeship programs here, as to how many are in



attendance and whether more could be helped in those programs.

**Mr. Sweeney:** They do not finish them.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Oh, come on.

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind the interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The member for Kitchener-Wilmot (Mr. Sweeney) was great at the elementary level, but at the post-secondary level his knowledge is somewhat limited.

I say to the Leader of the Opposition that when it comes to the total factor of training or manpower training within industry initiated by government, within the college system and within the secondary school system, our record outperforms that of any jurisdiction in Canada or the United States.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, is the Premier actually denying in this Legislature that 43 per cent of the kids who start in grade 9 do not end up with a grade 12 certificate? Is he denying that fact? Is he also denying the fact that the absolute number of apprenticeships in this province declined this year over last year? That fact is one that works a great hardship on our young people; it puts us behind other countries and it points to a really serious gap in the way in which we treat the average student in this province. Is the Premier denying those facts?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I will not remind the leader of the third party of what he has said about so many young people and so many workers in this province and how stupid they are. He can really provoke me into saying something about that—

**Mr. Rae:** I never said that. That was never said for a moment and the Premier knows that.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** He has said to the people in American Motors—

**Mr. Rae:** That is a fatuous statement and the Premier knows it is not true.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** The Premier knows it is not true.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** It is the only way he can answer it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** The Premier can withdraw that remark; he knows it is not true. He can withdraw that remark.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** I never said that. That was never said for a moment and he knows that is not true. That is a fatuous statement and he knows it is not true.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** He can withdraw that remark. He knows that is not true.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: I suggest you draw to the Premier's attention that under the rules of this House one cannot impute motives. I ask the Premier to withdraw. He cannot suggest that statement was made. I ask that you make him withdraw the allegation he has made imputing motives to my leader. We are not going to settle this unless he withdraws it.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, on the point of privilege, I am just quoting from the Toronto Star, where the leader of his party is quoted as saying, "It's in the interests of those who run the economy to keep a certain number of people stupid." That is the quotation.

**Mr. Rae:** All right. That is exactly what you are doing.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** You agree with that. That is exactly what you are doing. Keep them poor and keep them stupid.

**Mr. Martel:** Withdraw the imputation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** To answer the question, I do not think there is any question that over the last year and a half or two years the number of students or young people involved—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** One year only.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** —one year only, the minister tells me—in apprenticeship programs was a direct reflection of the economic situation in this province.

I should also point out to the leader of the third party that we have had some modest degree of difficulty on occasion over the years in getting apprenticeship accepted to higher levels. I used to deal with this as Minister of Education when we were trying to introduce greater recognition in the secondary school program for the two-year and three-year vocational programs. We met a modest degree of resistance from some of the unions the leader of the third party so effectively represents. I was there for the discussions. He can shake his head as vigorously as he likes, but it happens to be true.

I should also point out to the leader of the third party that no one is disputing at all the percentage or figures as to those young people who graduate from grade 12 or grade 13. I should point out to him that in terms of any comparative assessment, whether with western Europe, the United States or throughout Canada, the numbers of young



people who leave our secondary system in the four-year program or the two-year special vocational program compare very favourably. In fact, across Canada it is probably the highest.

It is higher in the United States because it has had a greater tendency to move people through the secondary school program to, say, a junior college, but in terms of the quality of what we are offering here and the level of excellence that is achieved, our system compares favourably. I would say without any reservation it is superior to almost every state of the union.

**Mr. Peterson:** I want to get back to the question of skills training, excluding colleges and universities.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** How can one do that?

**Mr. Peterson:** Look at the figures. They are not included. I am giving Statistics Canada figures, comparing everybody on an equal basis. In that area, the national average is some \$13 per capita. Ontario's record is \$4 per capita. The government's performance is dismal by any standard.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** How can the Premier justify that in 1970-71 the province was participating to the extent of 34 per cent in skills training and occupational training programs with the federal government and today the contribution is 12.3 per cent? How does he explain that, by any statistical measure, compared with any other province our performance is the worst?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** There are some valid areas of difference. I am not saying that what we do as a government represents perfection. I have never acknowledged that. But when the Leader of the Opposition is making these analyses, would he please understand that he cannot compare programs within provinces.

10:30 a.m.

If he looks carefully, he will find that a portion of the apprenticeship program is offered through the college system. The academic portions are there. These do not show up in the statistics he has been using here in the House this morning. What he has to look at is the total amount of money we are allocating in the college system and the secondary school system and in what we are doing with business and industry.

I would suggest, with great respect, that in total dollars this province is not behind the other provinces of Canada, it is ahead. One has to look at the figures and how we administer these programs in the total context.

**Mr. Peterson:** You are wrong in every respect.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I am not.

#### EXTRA BILLING

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my new question is for the Treasurer, who once again is acting as the defender of extra billing in Ontario. Why does he continue perpetrating the great lie when he goes around saying it is only the rich who are extra billed in this society? What evidence does he have to support that preposterous suggestion?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, we have debated this many times over the last several years. I would remind the leader of the third party that in the case of almost all the opted-out specialties, the vast majority of the bills submitted by the doctors who are extra billing are on an opted-in basis. The statistics will make that fairly clear.

The honourable member would presume that the doctors are extra billing the people less well off in society. I know many of those doctors and I know many of the patients and I say that in the vast majority of cases they are extra billing the better-off in society.

Most important, I think the fundamental question is, who will pay to rectify the small number of cases that can otherwise be rectified where the doctors are billing the wrong people? One thing we know for certain is that in the Canada Health Act we are going to shift the total cost, or pretty close to the total cost, of extra billing from those who are currently paying the freight to those right across the system. Therefore, when we absorb that \$50 million or whatever into the tax base, something has to give somewhere else.

It is safe to say that whether we choose to find that extra money through an increase in taxes or a decrease in expenditures or an increase in the deficit, people who are not currently extra billed, who do not have the resources to help pay that extra amount, are going to suffer. That is the fundamental inequity in the Canada Health Act. It militates in favour of the better-off in society and militates against the worse-off in society.

**Mr. Rae:** That is utter nonsense and the Treasurer should know it. He must know it. Why is he going to impose a tax on the citizens simply because he is not prepared to deal fairly with all the doctors and all the citizens of this province? The only reason there is a revenue problem as a result of the Canada Health Act is that he is so determined to stick it to the average taxpayer of this province and see that the medical profession



gets to eat its cake and have it at the same time. That is the only reason there is a tax problem and the only reason there is a revenue problem.

Is the Treasurer suggesting for a moment it is only rich people who have operations and require an anaesthetic? Is he suggesting it is only rich people who have to go to an obstetrician or a gynaecologist? The clear evidence is that whole groups of doctors are opted out of the system and that rich and poor people alike are affected by the practice of extra billing. He knows that is the case. I do not know how he can stand up and continue denying it when he does not have a single shred of evidence.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The point I made was not with regard to the numbers of doctors who are opted out. What I said very carefully was that the bills submitted by the doctors who are opted out indicate—

**Mr. McClellan:** What about the anaesthetists?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** In the case of anaesthetists the figure is 27 per cent, so in fully 73 per cent of cases the anaesthetists—

Interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The facts always cause the member some problems. I understand that.

In 73 per cent of cases, anaesthetists are not extra billing. That is pretty decent prima facie evidence that in most cases anaesthetists are not extra billing.

**Mr. Martel:** How stupid can you get?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** There goes that word again. It is a nemesis.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The member would put the proposition that in 27 per cent of the cases where anaesthetists are extra billing they are attacking the poor. With respect, the evidence would just not sustain the proposition he is putting. In any event, the important case on behalf of those people less well off in society is that he is asking them to pick up the tab.

Just so that we put this in some perspective, when one talks about—

**Mr. Rae:** No, you are asking them to pick up the tab because you are not prepared to take on the profession. That is the truth. Tell the truth.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Once the Premier (Mr. Davis) reminds the member of his earlier silly remarks, he is really not the same the rest of the morning.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The workers at American Motors are upset with him.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** They were before, so do not worry.

I remind the member that the important amendment made to the Canada Health Act calls for binding arbitration.

**Mr. Rae:** They are not upset with me.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Those who know who he is.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** That reduces the size of the problem significantly.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I must say I have trouble with the Treasurer's logic. What logical evidence is there to assume that he has to extract that additional \$50 million out of the public hide in any way or other? Why not just stop the practice? What is he afraid of? Is he afraid they are going to leave or that they are going to cheat? Why does he assume he has to give them another \$50 million just because of that?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The leader of the Liberal Party will find out that both Mr. Justice Emmett Hall, who made the original recommendation in this regard, and the Minister of National Health and Welfare—some days but not others, I would admit—have both said that in the event extra billing is banned, other arrangements are going to have to be made to enrich the fee schedules in order to compensate the opted-out specialists more adequately.

**Mr. Peterson:** So you are going to punish the ones who are opted in.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** We are not punishing them.

**Mr. Peterson:** The squeaky wheel gets oiled.

**Mr. Speaker:** May we quickly, briefly, hear the answer?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Sean, would you speak to your leader?

**Mr. Conway:** We pay a referee to be consistent.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. But surely it is Friday.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Might I just emphasize those are not conclusions reached only by the Ministry of Health and this government. I repeat, if the member believes that proposition is not accurate, if he believes the doctors can and should just be opted in and we will be able to retain them, if he believes all that to be so, he should take exception, not with this government, but with Monique Bégin and with Mr. Justice Hall, both of whom are relied upon, but not by us, as beacons of judgement in this regard.



**Mr. Rae:** Since 1981, Ontario health insurance plan premiums have been raised by 42 per cent by the Tory government; from \$480 a year per family to \$680 a year, an increase of \$200. It is already the case that those in the province with modest means, making about \$15,000 a year, when we include OHIP premiums are the most highly taxed taxpayers in all Canada and OHIP revenues now provide more to the Treasury than corporate tax revenue.

How can the Treasurer possibly justify an increase in taxation to the average taxpayer in Ontario for the simple reason he is not prepared to work out a fair deal with the doctors of the province that ensures every single doctor is opted in? Why should that be stuck to the taxpayer just because he does not have the courage to do what he has to do?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** It is interesting the leader of the New Democratic Party says it is just because we will not work out a fair deal. If the Canada Health Act comes in, I presume by the question he is acknowledging there must be a "fair deal" struck anew with the doctors of this province, given the opting-in basis. That is again consistent with Monique Bégin, again consistent with Mr. Justice Hall, both of whom have said the specialists will have to be paid more out of the opted-in schedules.

I take it the member endorsed that position and, therefore, someone has to fund it. There is only one way to fund these things. I know this will be a revelation to the member but the way one funds—

**Mr. Rae:** I never suggested that and you know it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Oh, so the member does not agree with those positions. I understand, he does want to have it both ways. I understand and I have become used to that.

10:40 a.m.

#### FRENCH LANGUAGE RIGHTS

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Premier. The Premier will recall that in October 1983 we had a series of exchanges on the subject of French language rights in Ontario. He will also know that since that time there has been a major setback for the cause of minority rights in all of Canada because of the attitude and position taken by the Conservative Party in Manitoba with respect to the constitutionalization of language rights in that province.

I am sure the Premier is aware of the psychological impact that the activities of the

Tory party in that province and the failure to progress with respect to minority rights in Manitoba have had on French-language minorities throughout Canada and in particular in our own province.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** Given what has happened in the past few months and the particular role Ontario plays in Confederation and the leadership role it should be playing in this area, why does the Premier continue to be so reluctant, according to recent press reports, to move ahead and make official what in many ways is already happening? Higher standards need to be set.

Why does the Premier continue to be so reluctant to move ahead when I believe there is such a strong degree of consensus within the province that we should be moving ahead in this area?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I will not comment on the latter view of the leader of the New Democratic Party. I do not know whether he reflects a point of view that is accurate, and I say with great respect that I am not sure he does.

I point out to him, and I am sure he is aware of this, that there is a very real distinction between the legal positions in this province and in Manitoba. People who draw parallels do so without understanding the historical and legal situation of our sister province and what our legal obligations are here in Ontario.

It is fair to state, and I review some of the history of this, that it was this province and this Premier that insisted on the inclusion within the Constitution of this country of the right for education of our young people in either of the two official languages. That to me is fundamental to any concept of preservation of language or culture. I think that is at the basis or root of anything we do in that regard, and it was this province that insisted that section be included.

It is fair to state that this government has taken what we believe is a very responsible and sensitive approach to this issue. As the leader of the New Democratic Party himself acknowledges, we have in many respects met, shall we say, the programs or even the law of some of our sister provinces in terms of the provision of services to the Franco-Ontarians of this province.

This will be further strengthened in the legislation the government will be introducing whereby it will no longer relate to questions of heads of families. Where the situation is such, the obligation on the boards for either the francophones or anglophones to provide an



educational service in either French or in English will become part of the law of Ontario.

I recognize the sensitive nature of this issue. I know the statements made by some of our national politicians. But I say with the greatest of respect that we have moved in this province in a way that has been generally acceptable and that has increased the level of service to the Franco-Ontarians. We have done it by policy, we have also done it by statute, and I make no apologies for what we have done and what we have accomplished.

**Mr. Rae:** I just say to the Premier, and I say it as directly as I can, that he is missing a great opportunity. He is denying to a great many francophones across the country a chance to see that they can live in their own language outside Quebec with a great sense of confidence and understanding in the attitude of the majority.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** I would simply like to quote for the Premier a statement made by his federal leader, Mr. Mulroney, on June 2 in the newspaper *Le Devoir*, where he said the francophone minority in Ontario does not have "des droits écrits, solides et irréversibles dans une constitution"—the francophone minority does not have written rights that are solid and irreversible in the Constitution—and he said he finds that "anormal"—he finds it abnormal.

Why does the Premier disagree with his federal leader on this most important and pressing national and provincial problem?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** One of the great complexities we have faced as a province is, shall we say, the lack of understanding by people in other parts of Canada, one in particular, as to the comprehensive nature of the programs existing here.

I point out, and I know I have argued this both ways, that it is intriguing the leader of the New Democratic Party argues when the law of Ontario is there, and it is pretty clear-cut, that there is not the same measure of protection as if it were in the charter. I understand the differences; I understand the abilities to amend the federal Constitution are far more complex than an act of this Legislature. But I point out to him that part of our policy with respect to Franco-Ontarians is entrenched in the law of this province, and I do not think he can ignore that.

The educational provisions, when they are finished here, will compare favourably with those of any other province of Canada, and I say with the greatest of respect that the provisions for francophones in this province in the field of

education, which is basic, will be far superior to those of the anglophones in Quebec.

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Well, it is true; it will be. The member knows it and I know it.

With respect to what Mr. Mulroney observed in June, I suggest the member ask Mr. Mulroney his views now, because Mr. Mulroney has begun to understand just how comprehensive we have been, how much we have done and how much is in the form of statute. I noticed that in recent months Mr. Mulroney has not been making observations about French-language services here in Ontario.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The member for Ottawa East.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Speaker, the Premier should endorse John Turner's statement of yesterday. Ontarians would be satisfied with that sort of statement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Roy:** Surely the Premier understands that constitutional guarantees give more security than provincial legislation. Surely he understands that what the Franco-Ontarians are asking for is no different from the guarantees that other groups were given under the charter, whether it be the women, the native people or the citizens of this province.

Accepting the fact that he has progressed in the field of education and in the field of justice, that there is provincial legislation there—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Roy:** Just be patient with me, please, Mr. Speaker. What is the Premier's reluctance in the twilight of his career to seize this opportunity—

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** I hope I am not offending him by saying that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Roy:** What is the Premier's reluctance to give constitutional guarantees in all areas where he is giving the services now—something along the lines of the resolution I put forward—and at the same time to set a tremendous example for all of the country, for our friends both to the west and to the east? This is an ideal opportunity to do that before the Premier moves on to other things.

10:50 a.m.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Day by day, I feel the member for Ottawa East has really moved on to



his other career and that this is sort of a part-time situation for him. Twilight can be a very prolonged period, and I would rather be in that twilight than never have been around at the rising of the sun, as in the case of the honourable member's party.

I will not become provocative today and remind the member of the ambivalence, the contradictions, the lack of unanimity, the changes in position, almost within hours, of the community party of Ontario which sometimes uses the name "Liberal." I will not remind him of that.

**Mr. Conway:** I will not remind the Premier of the Carleton by-election.

Interjections.

**Mr. Conway:** You were so clear. You were so prime-ministerial. Your hands will be dirty forever for that. You ought not to talk about anyone.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The member for Renfrew North will please contain himself.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I partially agree with the member for Ottawa East that, in terms of perception, having certain rights entrenched in the federal Constitution may create the feeling that there is a stronger guarantee. But I should point out, and I will go through the history of it again, it was this province that insisted the educational right be included in the Constitution. That to me is basic to what is paramount in this issue, the preservation of language and culture.

I regret, though, the feeling that may exist in some circles where they question, shall we say, the strength of a provincial statute. The member has been here and he has supported the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) in terms of the justice field. It is without question the law of Ontario. I say without equivocation or hesitation that Franco-Ontarians have every reason to be totally secure that no Legislature in this province is going to alter that particular legislation. Why should they not be secure? Of course they are.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Speaker, the Premier is quoted as opposing entrenchment of official bilingualism in the Constitution. In his response to Mr. Trudeau he has used the words that there is the potential for some expression, part of it based on misunderstanding, that everybody would have to become officially bilingual. Those were the Premier's words.

In view of the fact that the situation has become more intense and more serious, and the Prime Minister, Mr. Trudeau, has specifically urged Ontario to act, and that the Manitoba

situation underlines the necessity for action now, can the Premier indicate whether there is any evidence of that misunderstanding, evidence that could not be offset by the ample resources the government has in terms of public relations and communication with the public?

For that matter, has there been even one example of misunderstanding or backlash that has arisen in response to the government's law in this province to make French an official language in the courts? If those things have not happened, why can the Premier not exercise leadership, like his predecessor, John Robarts, in entrenching language rights in the Constitution of Canada? Why can the Premier not be like Mr. Mulroney or Mr. Robarts rather than being like Mr. Filmon?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I will not get into any parallels. I say with the greatest of respect to my predecessor, for whom I have great respect, that the only entrenchment that has taken place was through the Education Act and through the Charter of Rights, where this government insisted education be a part of the charter.

With the greatest of respect again, the honourable member himself, when he used the phrase "make Ontario officially bilingual," pointed out in his phrasing of the question one of the perceptions that exist in this province. I think there is some concern about that, perhaps exaggerated in some areas. I have always endeavoured to point out that the entrenchment of certain rights in the charter would not make this province officially bilingual, but the member highlights part of the problem of perception himself when he uses that very phrase.

#### GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson) asked me a question, and I will try to respond as rapidly as I can. I will quote from the Leader of the Opposition: "My question, just in time, Mr. Speaker"—I guess this was after; I will not read the preamble—"is how could the Premier be happy with a ministry such as the Ministry of Correctional Services that has had an untendered contract since 1976 with Montfort Blanchet and Associates. It now totals some \$327,000 and is in clear violation of the government's own Manual of Administration. How can he explain that? When is he going to take the problem seriously?"

I gave a tentative answer: "I have always taken problems seriously but, unlike the Leader of the Opposition, never myself, which is something he might learn some day." That was just a little word of advice.



After many hours of careful research—and I was up most of the night trying to get this answer ready for the Leader of the Opposition; I know the many hours of public service time that went into preparing this response—I would say, in that he has not had his daily press conference on these issues today, that I do not intend to make a practice of this. I suggest that when he has other brown envelopes and wishes to ask questions about them, he direct them to the individual ministers. But in that this was asked of me, I will do my best to answer it.

Perhaps the honourable member's researchers thought the Ministry of Correctional Services was involved in retaining consultants Montfort Blanchet to advise on the calibre of wine served in the correctional institutions. Montfort Blanchet offers a service in the field of medical, dental or psychiatric services to the institutions. The figures are very simple: 1976-77, \$15,821; 1977-78, \$26,326; 1979-80, \$58,838, and so on; and last year it was \$49,114, for a total of \$327,289.

These annual payments are contractual retainers. They ensure 24-hour medical coverage 365 days per year and permit Montfort Blanchet—which is in the medical business, not in the wine-tasting business—to charge specifically for service-chargeable health care functions requested by the correctional centre. The honorariums are increased automatically by the same increment received by the senior medical consultant to the ministry as determined by the Civil Service Commission.

I think it is felt by the ministry that when one is providing a health care system to one of the correctional institutions, there is some merit in retaining the same group of doctors to continue the provision of this service. This has been looked at for some six years by the Provincial Auditor, and no comment has been made.

I say with the greatest of respect that I am sure the Leader of the Opposition will find some specific examples where improvements can be made, but I think on this occasion he struck out.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, the facts as the Premier recites them are quite accurate; he had only to read our research to find that out. He should not have wasted a whole night, because when you get tired you do not always act the right way.

Let me ask him this question. That contract has been going on for seven years. The Manual of Administration—and I am going by memory; I think it is in section 50.4—says no contract shall run longer than three years. That is the govern-

ment's Manual of Administration, not mine. This contract is clearly in violation of his government's Manual of Administration.

How can the Premier tolerate that, particularly in the light of the pattern of contracts that are violating his Manual of Administration? That is the question.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** With great respect, I doubt if the ministry were to tender in that sense of the word—

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Well, the member has walked into this; let us try to deal with it intelligently and logically. I know it comes as a great shock to him to find out—

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Pardon?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I could not hear you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** When I am tired, I do not hear very well.

**Mr. Speaker:** Answer the question, please.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Actually, while I was up all night getting this answer ready, I really feel quite healthy this morning.

**Mr. Peterson:** You look terrible.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I know I look terrible. I know the kind of things the member says about us: "We look terrible." "We have nannies at home." I have to tell him that when Kathy saw that piece the member wrote about himself in the Toronto Star where he said, "We have nannies at home," she said, "My goodness"—

Interjections.

**Mr. Conway:** If I might tender a bit of advice—

**Mr. Speaker:** I might give you a bit of advice. Take a look at the standing orders and see what they provide.

11 a.m.

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: It is unfair when you call us to order when you tolerate that kind of prime ministerial digression time and time again.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I have cautioned the member once and I shall not caution him again.

#### FRENCH LANGUAGE RIGHTS

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. It involves a question that was



previously raised in this Legislature. Leaving aside all partisan rhetoric or anything like that—

**Hon. Mr. Gregory:** Oh.

**Mr. Boudria:** If this question is not serious for the Minister of Revenue (Mr. Gregory), it is for me as a francophone, and the same goes for the rest of the members opposite.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Boudria:** As a Franco-Ontarian in this Legislature, I am asking the Premier, will he convene a meeting of the three party leaders in this House with a view to coming to a unanimous resolution of all party leaders vis-a-vis the improvement of francophone rights in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, with the greatest of respect, I think there are two issues here. I answered and I hope I answered to the satisfaction of the leader of the third party. While there was a disagreement between him and me, I say, again with the greatest of respect, that in the provision of services, which I distinguished from the question of entrenchment, I do not believe there is any need to convene a meeting of the three party leaders.

I make no apologies for the policies, the programs and the legislation we have introduced. If the member is critical of existing legislation, he should feel free to be so or to have his leader say that, as a party, it would do some things differently or go much further, whatever the direction might be. I do not see that any convening of a meeting of the three party leaders on the issue of provision of French-language services is necessary. If he does not feel what we are doing is adequate, he has every right as a member to say so, or he can ask his leader to say so, and he can make that point of view publicly known.

**Mr. Boudria:** I recognize I have the right to raise these issues in this Legislature. However, at the federal level at least, we have demonstrated that trying to deal with these matters in a manner which is not partisan, and which could be arrived at by consensus, is perhaps much more effective than what we have seen in Manitoba recently and in Quebec for a longer period of time. I think the leadership approach which could be demonstrated by having a unanimous resolution vis-a-vis improvement of services would be better.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Boudria:** Will the Premier not share that view and will he not convene a meeting of the three party leaders in this Legislature vis-a-vis improvements for francophones in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I will not belabour the point, but I find the question just a little strange. My recollection is that on most of these issues, when the government has introduced legislation, announced policies or informed the House of expansion of policies, there has been a real degree of unanimity. There have been criticisms that we have perhaps not gone far enough. I just do not see any purpose being served in having the three leaders deal with the question of French-language services in the province. I distinguish between that and the question raised by the member for York South (Mr. Rae).

#### VISITOR

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, we have a very distinguished visitor in the government gallery today. I am only sorry he is in the government gallery. He is the federal Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I know he will not be co-opted by the other side, but I think he deserves a hearty welcome from this House. He has done an outstanding job for this country in international trade.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my words of welcome to Mr. Lumley. I apologize to the members of the House since the two leaders have asked their questions, because Mr. Lumley is here to be co-opted by the Premier of this province on matters very relevant to the general economy of Ontario.

**Mr. Peterson:** He is too smart for that. He is a lot smarter than that.

**Mr. Conway:** He remembers Pierre Benoit.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

#### ALLEGATIONS OF HARASSMENT

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour regarding the confusion that has arisen among Ontario workers in the labour movement as a result of the evidence accepted by the Ontario Labour Relations Board in the Stan Gray-Westinghouse case. I want to make it clear that I will not be asking the minister to comment directly or indirectly on that decision or on that case.

Is the minister prepared to make a clear statement that it is not the policy of this government to intimidate or threaten workers who attempt to exercise their rights and obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I anticipated this question and, in anticipation of two meetings I had with interested groups, I sought an independent legal opinion. When I say



"independent," I am referring to an opinion outside of my ministry. I have been told that because there are ongoing appearances before the Ontario Labour Relations Board and there is the possibility of civil action, I should make no comment whatsoever.

**Mr. Wildman:** I understand the minister's position, and he did notify me of that, but it is my further understanding that at this time there has been no civil suit filed with the court. I do not see, therefore, that there is a problem.

What I would like the minister to do is to affirm here today that it is not the policy of this government to intimidate citizens of Ontario from the exercise of their democratic rights in informing elected members of the assembly of their concerns and grievances, whatever they might be.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** With the greatest respect to my colleague opposite, I have to accept either his advice or the advice of very learned counsel. I think you will agree, Mr. Speaker, that it would be more appropriate for me to accept the advice of learned counsel.

I am prepared to answer at a later time the question he has raised today. I am not suggesting I will not respond to it. I will not respond to it at this time, but I will make a commitment to respond to it at a later and appropriate occasion.

#### JUNCTION TRIANGLE

**Mr. Ruprecht:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of the Environment. On January 12, in the Junction triangle area, several students and three teachers fell ill at a local skating rink and displayed symptoms of severe health problems. It is now March 23 and the ministry has not yet announced the findings of the investigation into the incident.

Can the minister tell us whether officials of his ministry have established the identity of the firm that keeps poisoning our neighbourhood, and is he prepared to make this information public?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, my ministry staff in the Junction triangle area have carried out intensive investigations of the possible emission source for the particular problem that has been identified by the honourable member. I regret to say we have not as yet been able to identify the source of the contamination, the fumes or the odours that emanated from a supposed industry in the triangle. I regret to say that because we too would like to know where the source was and then, I can assure the member, our ministry would move on it.

It is an incident that has not been repeated. I regret that it happened. No one has come forward with evidence that would give us the kind of specific information we would require to proceed either to lay charges or to take some action against the industry or against the source in question if it was not an industry. I cannot identify the source because we simply do not know.

**11:10 a.m.**

**Mr. Ruprecht:** This is indeed very interesting. I have no reason to believe the minister does not take this seriously, but I was told by his staff that they had identified the firm and that they were going to make it public on April 6. My supplementary would have been whether he would be making it public today.

I am very surprised that the minister now tells us he has not found the cause of this poisonous air emission. Several kids and three teachers were poisoned; they did not even go back to school for the whole week. If his staff cannot identify what these kinds of problems are, then I must ask him what his long-term proposals are to clean up this area so these kinds of problems, continuous air emissions and poisonous chemical spills do not take place.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I did not indicate that I would not be prepared to release the identity of the industry in question to the House when it was made known to me. I have not been advised of the specific identity of that industry. If the member knows it, then perhaps he can identify it and release it to the House. I do not have that information.

The member knows as well that the cleanup in the Junction triangle is a very sensitive and very complicated matter. We have established community groups in that part of the community in order to have free, open and complete access to all of the information we have as a ministry with respect to activities that are ongoing there over a long period of time.

There have been some very substantive cleanups already that have been undertaken and completed. I cannot guarantee the member that there will never be an upset in any industry in Ontario, let alone the Junction triangle, but I can tell him we are very concerned about it, concerned to the point that we are spending very large sums of ministry money to monitor that situation on an ongoing basis, but we are doing it with the best interests of the community in mind.

We are not making, I might add, and do not provoke me on this one because I have heard some of the member's statements—



**Mr. Ruprecht:** Provoke the minister? People are getting sick and he stands here telling us he cannot do anything about this.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** —none of which has been proved. Some of the allegations he has made have bordered on irresponsibility and the member knows it. He has gone ahead and frightened people unnecessarily on this question. I have to take strong issue with that.

**Mr. Ruprecht:** Yes, it is irresponsible. Kids end up in the hospital. The minister is irresponsible because he is not acting on this problem. We want him to spend more money on this to investigate these problems.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The honourable member will please resume his seat.

**Mr. Ruprecht:** He is the one who is irresponsible in this matter.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** The member should look at his statements.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Ruprecht:** What a bunch of nonsense. All these kids are in the hospital and the minister says "irresponsible." What a bunch of nonsense.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I will not caution the member for Parkdale again.

**Mr. Ruprecht:** We want the minister to act on this, Mr. Speaker.

#### ASSISTANCE FOR LAIDOFF WORKERS

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. Given the government's enthusiastic words about employment recovery and economic growth taking place in industry, can he tell us why there was nothing in the throne speech which dealt with positive measures to take care of workers in layoff situations, such as notification, justification, shorter hours, an end to planned overtime, or some form of priority in terms of transfers?

Given the fact his own ministry's figures for January of this year, the latest figures available, showed there were more workers laid off in January 1984 than there were in 10 of the months of the previous year, and that out of the 4,395 additional projected layoffs, over 50 per cent or over 2,300 were in the city of Hamilton, what is there in the throne speech to give some hope the recovery is going to assist these particular workers?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, that is an interesting and appropriate question because just after question period yesterday the Treasurer

(Mr. Grossman) and I met with the president of the Ontario Federation of Labour and some of his colleagues and we discussed some of those same matters. Those are matters the Treasurer is very concerned about.

An invitation was given to Mr. Pilkey and to his people yesterday to bring forward some proposals to us before the final decisions are reached in respect to the budget.

**Mr. Speaker:** The member for Bellwoods on a point of order.

#### EXTRA BILLING

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, when he was replying to a question from my leader, the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) gave some quite important information to the House, but his figures do not jibe. Could I have the Treasurer's attention during my point of order?

The figures the Treasurer gave to the House were that 27 per cent of anaesthetists were extra billing their patients and 63 per cent of opted-out anaesthetists were not. Those figures do not add up to 100 per cent. I wonder if the Treasurer could take the opportunity to clarify the record.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is hardly a point of privilege. You may ask a question.

**Mr. McClellan:** I am giving him an opportunity to clarify the record because it is important.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. McClellan:** The figures are obviously inaccurate.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Just to clarify the record.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, in preparation for my budget I was trying to do some instant mathematics in my head and subtracted incorrectly. In fact, it was 73 per cent.

#### BIRTH OF MEMBER'S DAUGHTER

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: I rise on a happy occasion to announce to the House that the member for Downsview (Mr. Di Santo) and his wife are now the happy parents of a baby daughter whose name is Victoria. I am sure all members will join with us in wishing the entire family all the very best.

#### VISITOR

**Mr. Rae:** I would also like to draw attention to the fact that we have in our presence today the happy face of the former member for Fort William, now a distinguished federal candidate in Fort William, Mr. Iain Angus. I am sure the



members will want to renew acquaintance with him.

## NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION

**Mr. Ruprecht:** Mr. Speaker, under standing order 28(b), I am not satisfied with the answer the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt) has given and I would like to give notice that he should answer on the late show.

## PETITIONS

### INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

**Mr. Cousens:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the member for Peterborough (Mr. Turner) and his constituents, the Peterborough Christian School Society Inc., I have a petition to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, appealing to the honourable members of the Legislature for help in redressing an injustice having to do with what it feels is an unfair burden and, in effect, double taxation.

**Mr. Watson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by approximately 90 constituents in the Wallaceburg area, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to appeal to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"As Wallaceburg area residents of the Chatham-Kent riding, we appeal for justice towards independent schools. This is not an appeal for charity. We have dutifully paid our taxes. We are entitled to receive at least some of the moneys we have paid for the education of our own children."

### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by several constituents living in the great electoral district of Renfrew North, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal

value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. G. I. Miller:** Mr. Speaker, I, too, have a petition addressed to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, which reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

It contains 110 signatures from the riding of Haldimand-Norfolk.

**Mr. Edighoffer:** I have a petition, Mr. Speaker.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition is signed by more than 100 people who are employed within the riding of Perth.

**11:20 a.m.**

### 4-H CLUBS

**Mr. Elston:** Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) has not been here for the last two or three days to get involved with agriculture.

I have a petition to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, which reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas the 4-H program of the province has been and is a worthwhile and indispensable



service to the youth of rural and urban Ontario; and whereas the viability and effectiveness of the program requires continued interest, support and participation by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food,

"We therefore petition that the Ministry of Agriculture and Food be ordered to provide continuing assistance to 4-H Club work, including providing direction to leaders and members, providing staff to conduct farm visits and to provide adjudication of 4-H books and projects."

This is signed by approximately 90 people of the Tiverton area in Bruce county in my riding.

**Mr. Riddell:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: I wonder if we could have you give us on Monday a report on the health of the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell). I am concerned that he has not been in the House for question period since the session began four days ago and we do have some very important questions we want to ask him.

I am a little concerned about the minister's health. Are the farm bankruptcies that are taking place bothering him to the point where he just cannot come into the House, or is there some other reason? Would you mind reporting on Monday, please?

**Mr. Speaker:** I must point out to you that is hardly a point of privilege. Further, that is not one of my responsibilities. However, I am sure the government House leader has taken note of what you have said and will determine an answer for you.

## MOTION

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BUSINESS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the following changes be made in order of precedence for private members' public business:

Mr. Breithaupt for Mr. Conway as number 2; Mr. Spensieri for Mr. Breithaupt as number 14; and Mr. Conway for Mr. Spensieri as number 32.

Motion agreed to.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### ZETA PSI ELDERS ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO ACT

Mrs. Scrivener moved, seconded by Mr. Jones, first reading of Bill Pr18, An Act to revive Zeta Psi Elders Association of Toronto.

Motion agreed to.

### CENTRAL BAPTIST SEMINARY AND BIBLE COLLEGE ACT

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Rotenberg, first reading of Bill Pr4, An Act to

incorporate Central Baptist Seminary and Bible College.

Motion agreed to.

### SCANDINAVIAN-CANADIAN CENTRE ACT

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Rotenberg, first reading of Bill Pr13, An Act respecting the Scandinavian-Canadian Centre.

Motion agreed to.

### MORAMOS HOLDING CLUB OF ESSEX ACT

Mr. Cooke moved, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie, first reading of Bill Pr1, An Act to revive the Moramos Holding Club of Essex.

Motion agreed to.

### BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE CANADA AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ACT

Mr. G. I. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. McKessock, first reading of Bill Pr15, An Act to incorporate Baptist Bible College Canada and Theological Seminary.

Motion agreed to.

### CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS ACT

Mr. Kerrio moved, seconded by Mr. Edighoffer, first reading of Bill Pr10, An Act respecting the City of Niagara Falls.

Motion agreed to.

### CITY OF HAMILTON ACT

Mr. Charlton moved, seconded by Mr. Allen, first reading of Bill Pr41, An Act respecting the City of Hamilton.

Motion agreed to.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### MOTION TO SET ASIDE ORDINARY BUSINESS

Mr. Charlton moved, seconded by Mr. McClellan, that pursuant to standing order 34(a), the ordinary business of the House be set aside in order to debate a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the lack of financial and political accountability revealed by Ontario Hydro's decision to commit power consumers to pay \$700 million to replace the pressure tubes in Pickering nuclear generating station units 1 and 2, without any possible review of either the appropriateness of the expenditure or the causes of the problems which led to that expenditure, a decision which will expose Hydro maintenance employees to additional health and safety risks because of Hydro's determination to proceed



with the retubing of the reactors before special remote handling devices have been developed.

**11:30 a.m.**

**Mr. Speaker:** I would like to point out to all honourable members that the notice of motion has been received in time and I will be prepared to listen for up to five minutes as to why the member wishes to set aside the ordinary business of the House.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order before the arguments are put forward. I would like you to consider, while the arguments are being put, the efficacy of using this procedure in this way to order the business of the House.

I am sure my colleagues are going to advise you that the debate should go forward and I have a feeling it will, and we are looking forward to taking part in it, but it seems to me that the procedure ought not to be used as a House leaders' gimmick to order the course of events of this House, but in fact be left to true emergencies.

If it is decided that a debate on Hydro is proper and in order, and I believe it is today, surely there is some other way we can achieve that besides going through this charade of trying to convince you to approve something we all know is going to happen. Why do we not use the procedure for real emergencies to set aside the regular business, instead of this kind of a funny game?

I am looking forward to the debate. I do not like the procedure with which we are entering it.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat surprised by my friend's remarks in that we think it is a genuine emergency and that is what it was moved for. If an accommodation was made because there was elected to this Legislature a new member who had friends in for his introduction to the House, we believe there was no gimmickry about it; we did it in good faith to accommodate the new member and at the same time not reduce the importance of the motion we presented today. It was submitted to the Speaker's office last Tuesday, I might suggest to my friend.

**Mr. Nixon:** That is the questionable aspect of the emergency.

**Mr. Martel:** I want to tell my friend that if he is suggesting the House should not decide these issues, who is he suggesting should? Should it rest entirely with the Speaker, who can rule it out of order so we do not debate it at all, or who rules it in order? Usually it is left to this Legislature.

All the House leaders attempt to do is to facilitate the bringing forward of any particular emergency resolution. We do the same with

no-confidence motions. We try to facilitate the better working of the House.

I am surprised and I am going to sit and wait with interest and watch what the Liberals do in the future in terms of emergency debates. I am not going to ask for recognition by the Speaker of whether it is an emergency. Then this House does not have the final authority on whether it wants to debate the matter, with direction from the Speaker as to whether he considers it to be an emergency.

I am surprised. Maybe the Liberal House leader should take up the request of the procedural affairs committee, which on a number of occasions has invited us to present ourselves and discuss changes. Maybe he should accept the offer and present that view, or at least ask Mr. Speaker to send the matter to the procedural affairs committee for consideration. The blunderbussing this morning really does not do anyone any good whatsoever.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, let me say that I, along with my two colleague House leaders, have always believed that while the rules lay down the guidelines for the operation of this House, a certain degree of flexibility is often necessary to carry on the public business of this province. Therefore, we put motions and make agreements, as we did this morning in changing the order for the private members' debates. We assume those orders will not be changed, but they are changed from time to time by agreement.

We have here before us a rule, a standing order, that says if a motion is put on a particular subject and is defeated it cannot be brought up again, and yet it is agreed that it is something that is of a certain urgency perhaps, if you so decide, Mr. Speaker. If the normal course of events had followed, that motion probably would have been defeated yesterday and therefore could not have been reintroduced.

It was probably the wish of at least some members of the House that this subject be discussed and that we work out an arrangement. I understand my friend the House leader of the official opposition, but a certain degree of flexibility comes about from time to time. We may not always like it, but each one of the three groups has benefited from it from time to time.

**Mr. Speaker:** Do I sense a certain unanimity to forgo the five-minute arguments? Is it the will of the House to proceed without putting arguments forward?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** Agreed.



Before the debate proceeds, I do have some reservations about whether the motion complies with the standing orders. However, if it is the will of the House to proceed, so be it. I call on the member for Hamilton Mountain and remind him he has 10 minutes to make his case.

#### RETUBING OF NUCLEAR REACTORS

**Mr. Charlton:** Mr. Speaker, I will make a couple of comments about the emergency nature of this debate in spite of the ruling you just made. It is important for us to understand the very important nature of Ontario Hydro spending and the huge potential impact it can have in the province over the course of the next number of years.

It is our view that Hydro spending and the cost of its continuing with its emphasis on the nuclear power program in Ontario and the problems which are evolving in that program may very well be the one single item that cripples the ability of this province to recover economically, a recovery which, although the government keeps telling us has started, is very slow to proceed, especially for average individuals across this province.

There are a number of facts which have come to light over the last few months, during the break period, which have made this debate necessary. In the public accounts committee, my colleague the member for Etobicoke (Mr. Philip) moved that there be a public inquiry into the matter. Unfortunately, the government members blocked or voted against proceeding with that investigation. I remind the House leader of the Liberal Party that this party did attempt other methods of getting at this issue, and we moved an emergency debate on the issue only when it became very clear we had no other way of getting at this very important issue.

The reality is that the problems which have been clearly defined in terms of Pickering units 1 and 2 are not the only problems which confront Ontario Hydro in its nuclear power generation program. In the minister's statement this morning, he made the comment, "Pickering and Darlington can be brought on line with the expectation of extended lifetimes of their reactor components and there may be work to be done on operating reactors to prolong the useful life of their pressure tubes." That has to be the grossest understatement I have ever heard in this House.

Hydro, in conjunction with Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., is doing ongoing studies not only of the reactor tube problems in Pickering units 1 and 2, but is also doing studies on the reactor core problem in all the other operating units in this

province. As the minister is no doubt aware, Pickering unit 3 will be shut down in April in order to take a sample tube out of that reactor for testing.

A joint study done by Ontario Hydro and Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. on the pressure tubes indicates we may be into problems with the zirconium-niobium tubes, the so-called better tubes, in four years. That has implications not only for the entire electric power grid in Ontario but also for Darlington, which has not even come on stream yet, because the tubes in the Darlington plant will be of the second type, zirconium-niobium.

**11:40 a.m.**

The minister can say what he likes in this House. We have talked extensively with officials from Ontario Hydro and their comment is that they believe the zirconium-niobium tubes will last longer than the Zircaloy-2 tubes, which have been the major problem at Pickering units 1 and 2, but they do not know how much longer. Their own study shows, as I suggested, that we could be into potential problems by 1988, some four years away.

The costs involved in the ramifications of this are astronomical. The minister made the point this morning that the retubing of units 1 and 2 at Pickering will cost \$420 million. That is just the direct replacement cost, and the minister knows that only too well. The cost of replacement power in addition to that is rather significant.

The minister carefully neglected to mention that this retubing is going to be done without the assistance of remote equipment that is under development. There are going to be substantial health and safety risks to the employees involved in the retubing. He also conveniently forgot to mention that this remote replacement equipment that is being developed is going to cost \$600 million plus, because we have seen the way things escalate. Also, it will be another two and a half or three years before it is ready.

The advisability of proceeding with the retubing of Pickering units 1 and 2 is in question because of the unanswered questions about the tubes in the other reactors in this province, including reactors that are not even completed yet, and the total cost of running a system that has to replace tubes for which it did not budget or plan to replace at such early periods in the operation of those units.

The economic potential for hardship and disaster in this province as a result of Ontario Hydro's borrowing and spending is already out of line. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr.



Peterson) this morning quoted a figure of \$64 billion over the next 20 years, but that totally excludes the potential costs implied by the problems currently being encountered with the nuclear reactors.

We have a situation where Ontario Hydro's debt in 1982 was almost twice the size of the Alberta heritage savings trust fund. Hydro's financial forecasts for the period 1982-85 are that by 1985 Ontario Hydro will be paying \$1.8 billion a year in interest alone. Between 1981 and 1985, Ontario Hydro will spend more than \$5 billion on interest payments alone. In 1985, Hydro's debt and debt-related charges will be \$24.6 billion, larger than the total provincial budget.

If we take those understandings and add the cost of replacing the tubes in reactor units 1 and 2, the potential cost of having to replace all the reactor tubes at the other units at Pickering and Bruce and the potential shortfall in the lifespan of the tubes at Darlington, we are looking at a situation that no longer in any way, shape or form resembles the situation that Hydro has touted over the years in terms of cheap power from nuclear power generation.

Not only does it no longer resemble that position, but also it now presents us with a situation where we may face very difficult economic circumstances in the money markets in the province if Hydro goes through the process of retubing all its reactors as it finds the problems are greater than were first envisioned, and it is very likely this will happen.

Last fall we were told the retubing in units 1 and 2 would be done gradually over time. Since that time, in the short span of three or four months, Ontario Hydro has learned the problem is much greater than it believed and those reactors will not be started up until the retubing is completed.

Hydro is in a position where it does not know how serious the problems are, and the government is in a position where it is pushing us to continue down that road not knowing what the answers are. It is our belief that this matter should be put to a full public inquiry so we can get to the bottom of the problem and understand what the economic potential for problems in the future is before we proceed blindly down an alley that involves huge billions of dollars.

**Mr. Kerrio:** Mr. Speaker, I am certainly pleased to join in this debate. We have now set aside the motion in a sense and we do not have to address ourselves to it, so we can get into the meat of the subject, as it were.

When one mentions Hydro, one immediately thinks of Niagara Falls, or those of my age group do. Of course, it gained an honourable tradition because of that involvement primarily in the time of Sir Adam Beck. But I am afraid the whole connotation of cheap electrical power has been built only on the past performance of Hydro and more specifically on the great hydraulic generation at Niagara. In truth, we should be changing the name of Ontario Hydro to something like Hydro Enterprises Inc. or some such more meaningful name, because of the digression of Ontario Hydro from its first premise that it would be able to supply very reasonably priced power across this great province.

I am pleased the minister is here and is going to participate. I wonder how much longer he as an individual and his government are going to continue to be apologists for Ontario Hydro, setting up within a great democratic process a new house, if you will, the house of Hydro, within which it has the ability to do what it will. Hydro has told many ministers in the past that it does not have to answer to this House, which made it possible in the first place. Those ministers who have been honest with us in this House have gone a step further and suggested they did not realize what they were stepping into when they stepped into those hallowed halls of Hydro and got mugged in the corridors.

**11:50 a.m.**

There should be a new order of things. The government owes it to the public of Ontario to accept a new order of things, to decide that the Minister of Energy (Mr. Andrewes) is going to set up a policy structure that Ontario Hydro will have to fit into and be more competitive. How hypocritical can we get when we allow Hydro to take charge of alternative energy sources, of those things they can do with or without, to talk about alternative energy, conservation and all the things that should be in competition with Hydro and not within their house to decide to do what they will?

I hope this debate today will at least point out to the minister that this party has been very constructive in sitting through many hours of discussion at the select committee where we had, I would say, the foremost experts in the nuclear field appear before us—scientists, economists, people related in every manner to that whole new concept of generating electricity. We have supported the nuclear involvement. It would be stepping backwards not to. We are in a very sophisticated society.



My quarrel with the minister and with Ontario Hydro is that we have put that responsibility on a group of people who have not accepted it in a responsible way. If proper monitoring had been done, if there had been a proper movement into the nuclear field that was a little slower and carefully monitored, we could stand up and say, "We are the leaders in the world in this field." That has not happened.

Witness the fact that Ontario Hydro now is attempting to tell us it had anticipated what was happening. We all know it was developing automated equipment to look into this serious problem that has not yet been developed. Needless to say, it did not anticipate this at this time.

We have been led by Ontario Hydro down the path of many errors that are threatening the future of the nuclear science in which we have led the world. It is about time the minister accepted the bill put by my colleague the member for Halton-Burlington (Mr. J. A. Reed), which would have made Ontario Hydro more accountable through this House to the people it is supposed to serve.

The minister knows that we, as a party, have been actively involved since the fall of 1983 in questioning him and the government regarding the problems of the pressure tubes, hydridding and the garter spring movement.

We have not been able to get the answers that should have been given, because I am not sure the minister was given the information immediately by Ontario Hydro. That is not a surprise. I can recall in the select committee that the chairman of Ontario Hydro, having heard that the new minister, who was a little naive, had suggested more information would be flowing from Ontario Hydro, pointed out to the new minister that the information would flow at the rate the chairman decided it should and in some instances would not flow at all.

The minister can see there is nothing new at Ontario Hydro, except for the fact it is beginning to spend so much money that the rates are going to increase astronomically. Unless we put a bit of a halt on it, it is going to continue that way to the point where it is going to be very difficult for many people in our society to meet the new costs.

While the government at the appropriate time decided Ontario Hydro should not become a political football, it was also very convenient to have the long lever of the former minister, Darcy McKeough, who told Ontario Hydro he could not talk to it meaningfully, and all he had to do was cut off its source of funding. It seems to me it did

not hurt Ontario Hydro at all to have Darcy McKeough apply the brakes and slow down a part of this empire-building.

That reminds me that over a good long time now, we in this party have proposed the re-establishment of the select committee. It seems we have the endorsement of the interim chairman at Ontario Hydro for whom, incidentally, I have a great deal of respect. I know he hopes to have a chairman chosen and get back to his former job.

I think the time has also come when we in the Legislative Assembly should have a little more to say about the choosing of the chairman, so we do not talk about removing the politics from Ontario Hydro and then have only a person who carries a blue card able to be chairman. I do not understand how one can sit there and decide that is not a bit hypocritical.

**Hon. Mr. Ashe:** People of the highest qualifications come that way.

**Mr. Kerrio:** It is a fact. I have not heard of a good Liberal—I would like to have the job offer. If the job were offered, I might be tempted to accept.

Interjections.

**The Deputy Speaker:** The member for Niagara Falls has the floor.

Interjections.

**Mr. Kerrio:** Mr. Speaker, I am having a very difficult time here.

**The Deputy Speaker:** I have the same observation. The Minister of Energy is going to reserve some comments.

**Mr. Kerrio:** Some of the interjections make some sense, but not all of them.

In any event, it would augur well for the citizens of this great province to have a feeling that there might be some consensus among the parties, as we have with the Ombudsman, that we would have a chairman truly representative of a broader cross-section of the people to whom we supply power. The job must be more important than being able to move into that slot someone who has no experience whatsoever. In the person of Milan Nastich we have one of the first chairmen, maybe since Beck, who knows something about Ontario Hydro when he steps into the job. That is a revelation in a sense.

With the greatest respect, I say to the minister that if there were some new sense of movement in the direction of accountability and responsibility, he could start the movement in that direction. It would augur well for the Legislature and for Hydro itself, and it would be more in keeping



with what the public expects of a great utility, to respond to their needs in a way that is answerable to them as the shareholders of Ontario Hydro.

**Mr. Watson:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak in this debate regarding workers' safety. It would be worth while to take a moment to explain to the members and to the general public some of the things that are done by Ontario Hydro in these generating plants to measure and control radiation.

The measure of radiation on people is called a rem, and maximum permissible doses of ionizing radiation are established by the Atomic Energy Control Board, based on the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection. Whole-body dose limits of five rems—often referred to as 5,000 rems—per year for occupational exposure and 0.5 rems for the general public were established in 1958. They were reviewed in 1965. They were reviewed again in 1972. The International Commission on Radiological Protection at that time decided there was no biological evidence to justify a reduction in those dose limits.

Ontario Hydro ensures that radiation doses in nuclear stations are kept to a minimum. Every person who works in the station has an individual identification which measures the amount of radiation on that person. That is important, because some people seem to think the measurement is the number of hours in a room, the number of hours in a reactor or something of that nature. Each person is individually identified with his social insurance number so he cannot work in one plant in one province and then go to another province and work in another plant or something of that nature, because the Atomic Energy Control Board supervises this.

There are personal radiation friskers. There are foot and hand monitors as one goes about different areas in a plant. There are doorway monitors. The process is not unlike going through airport metal detectors.

The record of Ontario Hydro in this area has been excellent. There have been no permanent disabilities or fatalities in nuclear plants as a result of radiation exposure.

## 12 noon

We should all realize that as individuals we get about 80 millirems of radiation exposure per year, whether or not there are any nuclear plants. We get about 40 millirems every time we have a tooth X-ray. We get the same when we have a chest X-ray. There is an amount of radiation received by individuals. The time I toured the Pickering plant, the guide who was showing me

around had his tooth worked on that day and had an X-ray. As he said, he had more radiation from that X-ray than he received in a total year of giving tours of the Pickering plant.

Ontario Hydro has about 5,000 employees working and training in its nuclear plants. All the employees at nuclear stations receive extensive training in radiation protection.

The objective at Pickering is to replace the channels with a minimum of radiation exposure to the workers and reactor downtime. The retubing will begin using personnel shielding and specialized tools which have been under development for a number of years now. As they become available, they will be increasingly used. This special equipment will allow the task of tube removal to proceed with a low radiation dose to workers, albeit it will be somewhat slower than with the fully automated system.

Ontario Hydro estimates that the automated system will be available for use in early 1986 and that retubing will be completed by mid-1986 or early 1987. The personnel involved will be from Ontario Hydro and the subcontractors. Some radiation dose to personnel is inevitable during the retubing operations. However, minimizing the radiation dose to the work force is the prime consideration in the planning for the retubing operations. Ontario Hydro is confident that it will maintain exposure limits set by the Atomic Energy Control Board.

The fuel will be removed from the reactor to the fuel storage bay, reducing the radiation at the reactor face. The reactor will be decontaminated using a dilute acid. Heavy water will be drained from the reactor, and the systems will be flushed with ordinary water to reduce the tritium in the working area to very low levels.

There are many personnel shielding cabinets that will provide extra shielding for the personnel who are working close to the reactor face. There will be special lead-lined boxes or flasks into which radioactive components will be placed as they are removed from the reactor. About 100 specialized tools are being developed and there is a manipulator control system which will reduce worker contact or the amount of radiation that the worker will receive.

I want to sum up by saying Ontario Hydro is not interested in any way in exposing any person in Ontario or any of its employees to any undue levels of radiation. I am confident it can carry this out with little increase in worker radiation dose above what was anticipated when the project was planned.



**Mr. Philip:** Mr. Speaker, it will come as no surprise that I wish to participate in this debate. As the members of this House will well realize, it was my motion in the standing committee on public accounts that called for an inquiry into the blatant mismanagement of Ontario Hydro by this government.

The government realized that motion had so much public support and there was so much concern among the public that it could not use its usual tactic of defeating the motion and, instead, it amended the scope of that inquiry. The very topic of this debate would not have to be dealt with in this House at this time in a short debate had the government members of the public accounts committee not organized in a systematic way to limit the scope of that inquiry by that committee and by the Provincial Auditor.

Experts could have been brought before our committee. The public could have had an opportunity to see exactly what was going on in Ontario Hydro. By amending the scope of the inquiry, the Conservatives prevented a reasonable, rational public study. One can only conclude the Conservatives were so fearful of their own policies, so fearful of Ontario Hydro policies and so fearful of the policies of the Ministry of Energy that they had to do a coverup and not let the public know exactly what was happening.

They did not want the public to know the actual costs. They did not want to let the public know the actual dangers. They did not want to let the public know how many times, projection after projection, they had been badly informed and how many times there had been overruns on those projections. They did not want to let key officials be cross-examined in detail before a committee, before the public and before the press because if they did the public would realize just what bad management exists in this government and in Ontario Hydro.

Not only was the government contemptuous of the public, not only was the government contemptuous of the opposition, it was also contemptuous of the auditor of Ontario. The Provincial Auditor requested that he make a series of reports to the committee as various parts of his investigation were completed, but the Conservatives would have no part of it. They would rather have a two-day wonder in which the Provincial Auditor would file massive documents before the standing committee on public accounts, before the public and before the press and hope it would blow over in two or three days.

That is exactly the game they are playing; so what we have is a short debate in this House.

It is time we called Ontario Hydro to public account. They have made disastrous errors in forecasting and mistaken judgements about the consequences. They have given Ontario a power system that is vastly overbuilt, inflexible and vulnerable to the kinds of accidents we have seen.

Hydro is neither responsible nor accountable. It is clear that in the early 1970s its projections for future growth were far above the actual growth rate. It is also clear that its projections of the costs of repairs in each of these stations were badly underestimated.

I have gone through some of the disasters in the projections of Darlington in some detail in this House, but let me deal with the accidents at Pickering and Bruce, the six serious accidents we should be looking at.

First, August 1, 1983, Pickering unit 2, fuel channel rupture: Hydro's first loss of coolant accident occurred when a crack two metres long—in other words, six feet—developed in one of the unit's 930 pressure tubes. Radioactive heavy water spilled into the building and was recycled as cooling water. Two fuel rods were lodged in the crack.

The pressure tube containing the fuel rods was removed and sent to the Chalk River laboratories of Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. for metallurgical analysis. A progress report indicated that blisters on the tube contained zirconium hydrides, which could make the metal brittle. Those are the same, of course, that will be used in the Darlington station, and the unit will not go back into service until the source of the accident is discovered.

August 5, 1983, Pickering unit 1, heat exchanger leak: Less than a week after the first accident we have a leak in one of the two moderator heat exchangers, causing a shutdown of the reactor. The leak resulted in the release of 4.5 litres—in other words, 1.5 gallons—of radioactive tritium into Lake Ontario.

August 7, Pickering unit 5, shutdown error: Hydro's newest reactor was shut down when the operator threw the wrong switch while testing a reactor pressure valve. Eight valves opened, allowing additional heavy water into the primary heat transport system. The pressure rose and the reactor shut down automatically. It was out of service for two days.

September 2, 1983, Pickering unit 6, fuelling system leak: A fuelling machine outside the



reactor leaked, spilling two tons of radioactive heavy water into Lake Ontario.

September 3, 1983, Bruce unit 3, boiler tube leak: A radioactive heavy water leak from a boiler tube spilled heavy water into the reactor building, causing a reactor shutdown. There are eight boilers with 4,200 tubes in each boiler at Bruce. The reactor was shut down for nine days.

September 3, 1983, at Douglas Point, heat exchanger leak: A leak occurred in the shutdown cooling loop while the plant was inactive, spilling three tons of heavy water contaminated with 6,000 curies of tritium into Lake Huron.

What we have is not one accident but a series of accidents in a very short period of time. As we finally got the information from Ontario Hydro in dribs and drabs, we found, first, that the accidents were more serious than expected and, second, that the costs are much higher than originally projected.

**12:10 p.m.**

This government rose to a new height of hypocrisy in the speech from the throne. On the last page of that speech it lectured municipalities and other groups saying that it would take steps to make municipalities and those group agencies adopt value-for-money accounting procedures. When it comes to their own system, they do not develop those very procedures.

Indeed, when it comes to having the Provincial Auditor examine those procedures, the Conservative members on the public accounts committee do a coverup, try to limit the scope of inquiry, try and do limit any inquiry into future costs, which is surely what the public and this Legislature should be concerned about.

It is bad enough that Ontario Hydro has blundered time and time again, over and over again, in past projections, but this government does not want even to allow the auditor and the public accounts committee to deal in a systematic way with finding out how realistic the projections are for the future. We have a bottomless pit into which the citizens of Ontario are pouring dollar after dollar to a company that is not accountable and a government that after 41 years in office does not feel it has to be accountable to the public, the press or this House.

In the throne speech we have a statement on public accountability—no, it is not a statement; it is a sermon—by the municipalities that I would say is the equivalent of the devil giving a sermon on honesty. This government has not been accountable when it comes to energy. Ontario Hydro has been constantly under in all its projections concerning not only costs but also

safety. What we are facing is a major problem of accountability on the part of Ontario Hydro and the government. Before this government lectures and sermonizes municipalities and other bodies, it should clean up its own act.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, I rise to participate in this debate. I was listening to the expressions presented by my other colleagues in the House. It seems as if I am hearing the litany for about the seventh or eighth year in a row. I wonder really what has changed. Surely the government has watched the financial integrity of Ontario Hydro erode to the point where it has a debt ratio now of over 0.8, something responsible corporations, which expect debt ratios of 0.4 and 0.5, call totally irresponsible.

Surely the litany, which is basically accurate, should have flagged to this government the best part of a decade ago that something was seriously wrong with the structure as it governed Ontario Hydro. The minister has been unable to obtain information. I dare say the minister still has not even seen the Petrosar contracts which have cost millions and millions of dollars for unpurchased oil. Surely the government must realize it has no real way to be accountable to the people of Ontario for Ontario Hydro except through one medium, that of the Treasurer.

I am just long enough in the tooth to recall when one of the minister's predecessors, the Honourable Darcy McKeough, imposed spending limits on Hydro. I recall the president of Hydro the following day holding a press conference and predicting brownouts and blackouts in this province by 1980, I believe.

I heard today the statement by the minister that we had reached in Ontario a peak consumption of 19,000 megawatts. I wanted to rise and ask him for how long this winter it had lasted. Did it last for four hours or six hours, and what kind of load management techniques were put into place to handle that eventuality? I wish the minister had more experience in his position so he might know what the phrase "load management" meant.

I am very concerned with the kind of projection for capital demand we see in the long-range financial projection. Incidentally, it should go on record that this financial projection was made prior to the recognition that retubing was necessary. It is a litany that we are going to have a per capita cost of \$18,000 for every man, woman and child in Ontario.

Everyone knows we use electricity, but now Ontario Hydro is telling us to use it for low-grade end uses. There is the intensive advertising program with the gobbling oil furnace that



somehow tries to mislead us into believing it is better to go electric when we know there are cheaper and far more thermally efficient alternatives. It is a litany of an organization that the government has allowed to run totally out of control.

The problem is that some of the good things that have resulted from the technological innovation and the moves we have taken in new directions are in danger of being permanently disbanded and destroyed as a result of the government's failure in this regard. I refer specifically to what I call the nuclear bubble.

My party has gone on record as supporting nuclear power and its development as one of the options, one of the energy choices for Ontario. But we have said, and will repeat it time and again, that that technology should compete on a fair and equal footing with the other energy options that are available. It has never been allowed to compete on an equal footing.

The overexpansion of the system has been used for political purposes. It was during the last election that the Premier (Mr. Davis) announced a speedup at Darlington. It is a tragedy because what we have now is an industry that is overinflated and desperate. There is no more hardware to be produced simply because the demand is not there.

My friends can say we can talk about options, choices and all the rest of it, but we have come to the point where we have painted ourselves into an economic corner on this matter. As a result, this government will destroy and disperse the nuclear industry in Ontario, the one it so proudly touted at one point, because it will bring it to a point where it has nothing to do, where the men have no more work to do, because there will be no more demand for the product. The nuclear industry then, for whatever benefits it may have, will be forced to disperse and to shrink.

**12:20 p.m.**

Think about that. Think about all the political flag waving the government has done over the years, resulting ultimately in the industry's destruction. I fear to talk about these things because, if members look at the record, most of the predictions we have made from this side of the House since 1976 have come true. We told the government that the projections for future consumption were too high and the overbuilding had to be curtailed. There was only one man in the government, the then Treasurer, who understood that, but I suppose the politics of the hour did not favour it.

We are headed into a most serious crisis. We have been gradually moving towards it over the last seven or eight years, but now it is incredibly serious. The people of the province, the taxpayers of Ontario, whether through hydro rates or through taxes, as the government is proposing, will end up paying for that folly. They will pay in spades because we will end up with a system we have to write off. Somehow we will have to find the way to do it.

We have no place to go. Ontario Hydro cannot compete in the export market in the long haul. The Darlington nuclear plant cannot compete with James Bay and Hydro knows it. They were not even able to compete on a proposed contract with General Public Utilities; I think Detroit Edison got that contract.

So the government is in desperate straits. Until they take the kinds of steps we recommended, I believe, back in—when did that bill come in, member for Niagara Falls?

**Mr. Kerrio:** In 1978.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** In 1978 we first introduced the Ontario Hydro Accountability Act. Until they bring in some kind of legislation like that to force themselves to deliver an energy policy to Ontario and show where the electric power system fits into it and until they amend the Power Corporation Act to force Ontario Hydro to accept that energy policy, we will continue on this road to destruction.

If we think Hydro rate increase projections are bad now, obviously we ain't seen nothin' yet if the experts at Hydro are correct. I fear to look at the 1984 projections, because they will be far worse than the ones that were printed in 1983.

I hate to be negative. Ontario Hydro is a great institution but the government is destroying it.

**Mr. Kolyn:** Mr. Speaker, before I start my remarks, one of the members was referring to an accident. I would like to correct him. I think it was an incident. An accident implies that someone was injured.

I am pleased to be here with my colleagues to talk about this subject of accountability. First of all, essentially Hydro can really do nothing of substance without the approval of cabinet expressed in an order in council signed by the Lieutenant Governor. We all know that Hydro cannot borrow money, cannot undertake capital projects, cannot buy or sell electricity and cannot purchase or sell property without the express consent of cabinet. In my opinion this indicates that the cabinet, through this Legislature, is accountable to the people of Ontario.



In total, Hydro has been the subject of 11 different reviews since the early 1970s. Ontario Hydro's record in this regard is exemplary. Through 10 years of legislative and public scrutiny Ontario Hydro has spent more than 79,750 eight-hour days in preparation and attendance at various hearings. The total costs to Hydro have exceeded \$18 million. That, in my opinion, is part of the accountability process to the taxpayers of Ontario.

The balance between maintaining accountability to the public and yet providing greater flexibility for the corporation has always been very tenuous. As political scientists Allan Tupper and Bruce Dean point out, the contradictory world in which public corporations function could not be more obvious. We want them to be flexible, innovative, free and businesslike and to promote change; we want them to be reliable, predictable and to do what they are told. We want both because we value both.

I could go on and on, but I would like to give some of my time to the minister so he may respond to some of the criticisms from the opposition. In my opinion, Ontario Hydro is accountable. I remind members of the statement made by the former leader of the third party, Donald MacDonald, on January 7, 1981. He said he "never doubted that it was the best run utility in the world."

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to be able to participate in this debate. A lot has been said about Ontario Hydro and the recent events, and a lot has not been said. It still remains to be answered. I want to discuss a few basic points with the minister and ask for his response to the basic points that have to be made.

As I am sure he is aware, I spent some time in Ottawa being briefed by the officials at Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. and I met with the scientist who was responsible for resolving the question of what actually happened to the tubes at units 1 and 2. It was interesting that at the time of the meeting they seemed to have a fairly clear idea of exactly what had happened. There was no indication at that meeting that there was going to be the kind of full-scale retubing Hydro ultimately decided on a short three or four weeks later.

The reason I raise that is, if one looks at the history of the exchanges we have had with the minister since the incidents took place at Pickering, in a sense those exchanges have always been as follows. For example, after they closed down unit 2, I asked when I was first briefed by Hydro officials in August, "Why do

you not take random samples?" They said, "We do not think we are going to need to take random samples." A few weeks later they were taking random samples.

On October 11, I asked why unit 1 was being allowed to go full blast when it was using the same zirconium tubes as unit 2. The minister answered: "That is under advisement. We are looking at that. We think it is safe." On October 27, unit 2 was closed for tests of pressure tubes.

The point I am making is that whenever one asks a question the response is always, "Everything is okay," regardless of what the announcement is all about. When it is unit 2 that is being shut down they say: "It is only unit 2. There is nothing to worry about. It does not affect the rest of the system." Then they shut down unit 1. There you have the beginning of an unfolding of a problem that is bigger than they were originally prepared to admit.

Interestingly, the minister stepped into exactly the same trap, the same hole—I do not know if there were any aces in it or not but he stepped right into it—when in answer to the questions I put to him today with respect to the implication of Hydro's decision to test at unit 3 he said, "It is a very different alloy and it does not have the same kind of problems."

I would like to refer the minister to the document that was referred to in this House when we had these debates in October, the document entitled *A Review of Current Knowledge on the Effects of Hydrogen on the Pressure Tubes of Ontario Hydro's Operating Reactors*.

I will quote for the minister exactly what it has to say about the implications for breakdown at Pickering and Bruce with respect to the hydriding problem with this different zirconium alloy. I will quote the whole paragraph. I am not going to quote selectively because when one hears each sentence one realizes just how unsure they are as to exactly what the problem is.

I quote from the document: "The time factors for the decision of tube removal for Pickering units 3 and 4 appear to be less severe. Hydride-related problems are more likely to occur closer to end-of-life according to current predictions." I hope the minister is listening to this. "However, the critical hydrogen concentrations which would result in problems have not been established and there is a general lack of confidence in predicted hydrogen equivalent concentrations. A change by a factor of two in the corrosion deuteriding rate, which is not outside the realm of possibility, would bring hydride-



related problems by 1988. In particular, hydride cracking at operating temperature might occur."

**12:30 p.m.**

That is the current situation with regard to the scientific information that has been published and made available to us with respect to this critical question of possible hydriding and breakage of tubes at Pickering units 3 and 4 and for the entire Bruce system. I do not need to tell the minister it has implications for the Darlington system as well.

The reason I raise this particular example is that attached to this technical question, which we are not going to resolve in this Legislature, there turns a major financial problem. That major financial problem is based on the fact that Ontario Hydro's future is based on the absolute integrity of its nuclear operation.

I suggest to the minister that when he comes into the House and says, "It is the best system ever; there are no problems with it; there is nothing to worry about; everything is A-okay and it is our ace in the hole," he is saying things he does not know, Hydro itself does not know and no one, in fact, knows.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Look at the history.

**Mr. Rae:** We are looking at the history leading up to the incidents that took place last summer. We are looking at the history that has led to a replacement costing \$700 million. I would remind the minister that it cost \$740 million to build the four reactors at Pickering.

The history and the experiences are very recent. We are only now beginning to understand it is possible that during the life of a single reactor it is going to cost two or possibly three times as much in terms of the replacement of different parts of that reactor in order to allow that reactor to continue to operate at full efficiency and capacity. That is the implication of this one technical problem.

I say to the minister this tremendous overconfidence, which I know he has to project because that is the style of the government and the way in which it projects everything with respect to Hydro, that nothing can go wrong, there are no problems, there is nothing to worry about in the integrity of the system, is frankly not based on facts. It is based on a hope that everything will continue to operate exactly as it did prior to the incidents that took place last summer.

I do not think it is prudent. I do not think it is wise. I do not think it is smart. I do not think it is helpful or intelligent or fiscally responsible to base the entire energy program for the next 20 years on assumptions and hopes that everything

is going to turn out okay. I do not think that is smart.

We have put all our energy eggs into the nuclear basket in Ontario. We are one of the very few jurisdictions in the world that are doing that. We do that with certain risks, and in my view unacceptable risks, to the future of this province.

When the province says it is going to be moving from 30 per cent dependence to 70 per cent dependence on nuclear power while we have a number of technical questions that have such financial implications, it is irresponsible for the government to move ahead with Darlington at the speed with which it is moving ahead. It is irresponsible for the government to be overbuilding the system to the extent it has.

It is irresponsible for the government to continue to refuse to answer questions and to refer to a public inquiry what every other utility in North America is now coming up against, the fact that nuclear is far more expensive than it was ever anticipated to be and there are other alternatives which perhaps in the long run are cheaper and which would certainly provide greater balance to the system.

For the record, the minister has mothballed Wesleyville, R. L. Hearn, J. C. Keith, Lennox, Thunder Bay and Lakeview. Atikokan was on and off and now the minister has changed his mind once again because of public pressure. The point is, the minister has totally scrapped the non-nuclear alternatives in the system. He has totally underfunded hydraulic. He has done nothing about renewable energy.

The minister is doing absolutely nothing in terms of conservation. In fact, he has replaced "Preserve it, conserve it" with "Kiss an old flame goodbye" and "Buy electric, go electric" and the talking furnace. He has created a system that is overbuilt, running counter to the whole trend towards conservation, flexibility, balance and responsibility. He is consistently ignoring—and I say this with the greatest respect to the government—the evidence coming in from the rest of North America and the world that it does not make sense to become totally dependent on nuclear power by the year 2000. It is not smart or wise.

What is wise is a system that is balanced, has flexibility and a degree of accountability and responsibility to the public and that can provide a better deal. That is not the kind of hydroelectric system the government is creating for this province. It is going to live to regret it and, unfortunately, so are the ratepayers and taxpayers of this province.



**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to rise and join in the very important debate which the member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Charlton) has put before the assembly on this occasion. It seems to me it is even more propitious in the light of the minister's statement to the House earlier this morning.

I want to begin my remarks by being quite candid about my perspective. For the past nine years I have represented an electoral district in this great province where the nuclear industry was born and where much of it still resides. Over the course of three elections and nine years, I have been a very avid supporter of that great achievement in Canadian high technology. I say that quite unapologetically.

I say to my colleagues in the House today that I resent in some measure the ongoing assault so many people make on what has been a very great achievement in Canadian research, development and high technology. I say that as someone who represents 2,500 people I have an obligation to represent in that way, not just because I am their member but because I live and work with them.

I have no concern whatsoever in repeating what I said just a few moments ago. The Canadian Candu nuclear technology represents a very great, world-class achievement in the very area in which so many of us want to see greater achievement in the years and decades to come.

I have said to some of my colleagues, publicly and privately—

**Mr. Rae:** You are covering your ass.

**Mr. Conway:** The member for York South says I am covering my posterior.

**Mr. McClellan:** That is not what he said at all. Interjections.

**Mr. Conway:** I am not ashamed to say in this House what I have said in North Renfrew and what I will continue to say. I think the Canadian nuclear technology is a great Canadian success and it is a world-class achievement of which we should be proud.

Having said that, I want to indicate to the member for York South, who like all members has a genuine and personal concern about employment strategy for this province and its future, that it ought not to be lost on the member or on anyone else that 75 per cent of—let me just quote the statistics.

The nuclear industry in Canada is a \$4.5-billion operation, 90 per cent of which is concentrated in Ontario and much of which is resident in my riding. In Ontario, where 90 per cent of nuclear capacity is located, the industry

employs some 30,400 people directly, or 76.5 per cent of the industry total, and a further 51,600 indirectly through spinoff industries. What I want to indicate in that context is that the nuclear industry is an extremely important part of the Ontario economy. I say again that it is a vital part of the economic present and future in North Renfrew.

I want to return specifically to the motion put by the member for Hamilton Mountain, because he very properly draws the attention of this assembly to the want of political accountability that has characterized much of the Hydro debate since March 19, 1981.

As a strong supporter of the Canadian nuclear industry, most of which is resident in my province with a vast majority of that being in my riding, that does not in any way prohibit me from saying to the Minister of Energy (Mr. Andrewes) and his 69 colleagues on the other side of this House that I am not happy with the attitude adopted by his government with the return of its majority in March 1981.

**12:40 p.m.**

I have had the privilege to have served with other members, including the former member for York South and the current member for Durham West (Mr. Ashe), on the select committee on nuclear energy, reactor safety and waste management. I thought that was on balance an extremely useful, productive and positive enterprise. It was not absolutely perfect because there were certain aspects of it which, I am sure, were not satisfactory for the utility, for the government and, I might even say, from my point of view.

Ontario Hydro is an extremely vital utility. It is an enormous, gargantuan, public corporation of which this Legislature must have a better understanding. In that respect, I do not accept as minimally desirable the offer made in the statement today by the Minister of Energy.

Let me quote from page 5 of that statement: "Accordingly, I have written to the chairman of the government caucus, the member for Wellington-Dufferin-Peel (Mr. J. M. Johnson), the leader of the official opposition and the leader of the New Democratic Party offering to have Ontario Hydro brief caucus members and answer their questions."

I say to the well-intentioned Minister of Energy, that is absolutely unacceptable. That is a perversion of parliamentary government as far as I am concerned.

That great public corporation which delivers power across this province has an awful lot to answer for today, as it has had since its inception



70-odd years ago. As a supporter of public power, I say to the Minister of Energy that it is not good enough to have the chairman of Ontario Hydro, at pleasure, visit the caucuses of this assembly. There ought to be a standing committee of this Legislature in place to deal with Hydro affairs.

I cannot believe any member of this assembly, whether in government or in opposition, would consider the minister's offer today acceptable, given the important financial, energy and political questions at issue here. I say to the Minister of Energy, who I believe to be an honourable, diligent and hard-working new Minister of Energy, that is simply not good enough.

As a defender of the nuclear industry, I want to be able to defend it openly in a committee of this House, to scrutinize it carefully and to criticize it reasonably. I worry about the industry that is so vital to my riding, because of the very way in which its alleged protectors in this province in the Davis government are handling it.

I also have a question in response to the statement here today where it says, at the bottom of page 4: "The federal and Ontario governments, which joined with Ontario Hydro in the initial venture of building the first two units at Pickering and which have benefited in the past from the excellent performance of these units, will also bear their share of the cost."

In the scrum outside following question period this morning, he might have elucidated on that important point. I do not know, as I stand here today, what he meant by that and I want to know. The place for me to find out, it seems to me, is in this chamber. I accept that there is a considerable degree of what one might call technical spaghetti that is difficult to unravel in the daily question period, or even in estimates.

I reiterate that this great public corporation which, according to my colleague and leader this morning is embarking on a multibillion-dollar borrowing program, has to give a better, more regular and more parliamentary accounting of itself.

As someone who has been here for nine years, I must tell the Minister of Energy that when the Chairman of Management Board reports on the final cost of the rehabilitation of Pickering units 1 and 2 two or three years down the road, I am not confident \$420 million will be the final figure. If one were to look at the history to which the minister has directed our attention, one could conclude that \$420 million, in constant dollars, will probably come in somewhere closer to \$1 billion.

The ratepayers of Renfrew North, Lincoln and elsewhere are not happy about the way in which their public power utility has been giving an accounting of its operations.

One member in this chamber, the former mayor of Sudbury, the distinguished mover of the address in reply to the throne speech last night, has even gone so far as to say in a public place that Ontario Hydro has been engaged in "mafia economics." Not a nattering nay-sayer from the opposition said that; the soon-to-be minister from Sudbury city, the Conservative member from that great region made that charge a year ago.

I simply say to the Minister of Energy that we have very grave concerns about the particulars of his current engagement in this connection. As an unabashed supporter of the Canadian nuclear industry, I say to him that I want some answers that I do not yet have. There are extremely important questions that have to be resolved, not only in favour of the nuclear industry but also in favour of the ratepayers who will pay the price and of the province which is being asked, as my leader pointed out, to guarantee this great and ever-increasing commitment.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure we have the full time left, but I would certainly like to make some remarks to try to put some perspective on the debate we have heard here this morning.

The member for Halton-Burlington (Mr. J. A. Reed) alluded to his time in the House, the litany of events that have gone on and the rhetoric surrounding all the discussions on Ontario Hydro. I want to take him back even further than that in history. I want to take him back to the days towards the end of the First World War. I want to quote from a speech given recently by Mr. Nastich.

"Toward the end of the First World War, a relatively young Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario began constructing the first large-scale generating station at Niagara on the Niagara River, the Sir Adam Beck unit 1. Within months there was an outcry in the press. Charges of poor management came fast and furious. 'A far too costly, ambitious and unnecessary project,' they said. Twenty years later the building of that station was hailed as an engineering marvel and a much-needed part of Hydro's supply system." The member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Kerrio) has hailed it here today.

"It seemed that poor management had become effective long-range planning. That is just as true today, but equally difficult to get across. Ontario



Hydro still bases decisions on its best evaluation of Ontario's future energy needs."

I want to set the record straight for the member for Niagara Falls, who was hopeful that Mr. Nastich would soon have his old job back, by reminding him that Mr. Nastich never left his old job but has been filling very capably and ably the shoes of both the president and the acting chairman of the Ontario Hydro board.

It is important as well to get on the record some of the relationships that exist between myself, as the minister, the ministry and the government, and the Ontario Hydro management and board. It is important for the members to understand there is an ongoing discussion, there is an ongoing opportunity for me to share in the problems and value of Ontario Hydro that is without any formal presentation with which one would like to encompass and surround it in a legislative forum. It is a working relationship and it is important to me, as minister, to be able to report to this House. It is a working relationship that makes me confident, on a day-to-day basis, that Ontario Hydro and its operation and my responsibilities for reporting on Ontario Hydro's operations are real and expedited.

**12:50 p.m.**

I want to comment on some of the comments made by the member for Niagara Falls in the selection of chairman. In this House I have not noted a willingness on the part of the opposition members to take responsibility for the activities of Hydro; so I do not think it is fair for the members of the opposition to suggest they should take responsibility for the selection of the chairman who will direct the operation of Ontario Hydro.

I do not recollect Eaton's asking Simpsons who should manage their company. It is utterly ridiculous for the member for Halton-Burlington to go on suggesting this Legislature should have a willingness to—

Interjections.

**Mr. Rae:** What an outrageous comparison.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Cousens):** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** The member knows very well that I have not heard him compliment us on one occasion about the operation of Ontario Hydro. I have not heard it.

I also want to put on the record what the role of the board of Ontario Hydro is. It is a board that is selected for its capabilities, for its representation of points of view and for its public responsibility. I want to emphasize that if members are going to start demeaning this board, we will not find the

quality of people willing to take those positions in their day-to-day operations.

I do not have to remind the member for Halton-Burlington of the memorandum of understanding; he has reminded me of it on occasion. I think it is something on which we will let the record stand.

The member for Renfrew North, I felt, was very eloquent and supportive of the nuclear industry.

Interjection.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order, please.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** He posed some rather interesting comparisons. In his support of the nuclear industry he may want to have a word with his leader who, through his constant fearmongering tactics in this House on occasion and his constant criticism of Hydro, has no doubt placed the future of the nuclear industry in this country in jeopardy.

Interjections.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Perhaps the member for Renfrew North will want to use his persuasive rhetoric on his leader.

We are running out of time.

The member for Etobicoke (Mr. Philip), who is the New Democratic Party critic on anything and everything, has referred to a motion he put in the standing committee on public accounts. I only want to remind him that the retubing at Pickering is the subject of some consideration in that committee. He put three points to that committee last fall. He got what he asked for and now he wants to broaden it; he wants to go on a witchhunt and to do all sorts of things. He put that motion last fall.

The member for Etobicoke, the expert on virtually everything, talks of a report in the Toronto Sun on March 2 about security at Hydro plants. The report said he emphasized once again, as he has on other occasions, "the need for Hydro to continue with a 'mix' of coal, oil and hydroelectric power plants. Hydro shouldn't rely solely on a high-risk source such as nuclear energy, he said."

I think all of us who have some interest in Hydro are rather pleased that Hydro chose to get out of oil as an option in its generating mix. However, I want the member for Etobicoke, who is the expert on virtually everything, to be reminded of that.

My friend the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Kolyn) talked about "incidents" versus "accidents." I remind the member for Etobicoke again



that in the nuclear industry in the developed world there has never been a loss-of-life accident. One wants to keep that in some perspective. One wants to compare it with the tragic loss of life on the Ocean Ranger; not one ounce of energy was produced from that exercise.

It is important to keep some perspective on the performance of these reactors. You can travel outside the jurisdiction and compare it with the US experience, of which I have often heard, where 50 per cent capability is considered a reasonable average for the operation of their reactors, compared to Ontario Hydro's, which in many years has exceeded 80 per cent.

One wants to look at the financial responsibility and the response of the bond market to the recent issue. That speaks for itself. It speaks of the confidence of the financial market in the operation and the future of Ontario Hydro.

However, the most salient point must be the performance of Hydro: its rates; its reliability; the confidence of its users, both industries and home owners; the confidence of its investors in the bond market, and the confidence of the people of this province.

The Bad News Bears delight in their recitation before this House of the various events that have

plagued that utility in the past six to seven months. They know there is confidence in that system, but they will not admit it.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, just before I move the adjournment of the House, I might indicate the business for next week. We will be continuing with the debate on the speech from the throne.

On Monday there will be the address by a representative of the official opposition; I presume that will be the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson).

On Tuesday the leader of the New Democratic Party will add his contribution to the debate on the speech from the throne; the debate will continue until six o'clock. The House will meet on Tuesday evening, when we will consider the motion on the order paper for interim supply.

On Thursday there will be no private members' public business in the afternoon; we will continue with either the throne speech debate or the interim supply debate.

The House adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

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No. 4

# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Monday, March 26, 1984

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Monday, March 26, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## VISITOR

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding, I would ask all members of the assembly to join me in welcoming the Honourable Walter Davidson, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, who is in the Speaker's gallery. We had a very enjoyable lunch, and he gave me all kinds of tips.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### URBAN TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT CORP. CONTRACT

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to advise members today that the Urban Transportation Development Corp. has achieved another step along the way towards a \$65-million contract to supply rapid transit vehicles to Boston, Massachusetts.

Recently, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority board of directors approved the awarding of the contract to supply 54 subway-type rapid transit vehicles. When the contract is signed later this spring, it will mean approximately 250 man-years of work for the Can-Car Rail Inc. plant in Thunder Bay. Design work on the vehicles is scheduled to begin immediately after the signing of the contract, with production slated for later this fall.

The Boston contract means three production lines will be running by the end of this year, providing a plant that has been empty since January with a level of activity it has not experienced in recent years. Most important, two of the production lines will be engaged in producing products for export: the subway cars for Boston and streetcars for California.

It should be noted that vehicles supplied to the US market must have a minimum of 51 per cent US content. To achieve this level, UTDC has worked with suppliers to develop common supplier programs, which yield better overall costs, enabling the company both to compete effectively in the US market and to supply products here in Canada at the best possible prices.

The end result, of course, is more jobs for Canadians and confirms this government's strategy for building an Ontario-based transportation industry.

On another matter, I am pleased to confirm that the British Columbia government has announced an extension to its advanced light rapid transit system in Vancouver. This extension will add six kilometres to the 22-kilometre system already under construction, taking the service across the Fraser River into Surrey, BC.

This announcement confirms the BC government's confidence in the UTDC technology developed here in Ontario and is another indication that the Ontario government's policy will yield continuing benefits to our province.

### GO-ALRT CONTRACT

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** Mr. Speaker, I have a second short statement. It is my pleasant duty today to announce that the tenders have been called for the first contract on the GO advanced light rapid transit system in the Pickering-to-Oshawa corridor.

This contract, which was advertised last Wednesday, will include grading for the guideway, construction of a structure over Lynde Creek, as well as expanded GO Transit parking in the vicinity of Brock Street in Whitby.

Work on this prebuild portion of the GO-ALRT system will extend from 0.6 miles east of Harwood Avenue in Ajax to Henry Street in Whitby. This work on the exclusive GO-ALRT alignment will provide the base for installing trackwork in a future contract. It is one of 11 civil works contracts proposed for tender during 1984-85 on this eastern portion of the GO-ALRT system.

As honourable members know, the extension of GO service from Pickering to Oshawa has a high priority because of the increasing number of commuters using GO's existing rail passenger service. When completed, the Pickering-to-Oshawa GO-ALRT system will link local regional transit to the established GO and Metro Toronto transit networks.

In closing, I wish to note that this important project, which is being administered and funded in part under the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program, is the initial step in



one of the most innovative transit schemes ever put forward in Canada.

As such, it will have far-reaching effects on job creation and on the social wellbeing of Ontario's commuters and will enhance the economies of all those communities surrounding the Metro Toronto area.

#### NORTHERN ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOLS

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, last May Mr. G. Rodger Allan was appointed "to inquire into and to report to the Ministry of Education upon the provision of secondary education in the Lake Superior Board of Education and other matters related thereto, including, but not limited to, the financing of small secondary schools in northern Ontario, the governance of education in northern Ontario, and the support services available for secondary schools in northern Ontario."

Mr. Allan was also instructed to identify and report upon other small secondary schools in northern Ontario where school boards do not provide a full range of programs at the basic, general and advanced levels of difficulty.

In response to Mr. Allan's report, I am pleased to inform the House that the government will provide additional funding to address the special needs of small remote secondary schools in the north.

Small remote secondary schools are defined as those north of the French River having an enrolment of fewer than 120 pupils per grade and those located more than 80 kilometres from all other secondary schools in the province which have the same language of instruction. The additional funding will be provided by the Ministry of Education and will be approximately \$1 million during the 1984-85 school year.

As well, I am pleased to announce that the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier) has committed a significant amount of money for up to a minimum of three years and will be making a statement about this tomorrow. Under the joint leadership of officials in correspondence education, the senior and continuing education branch and the computers-in-education project, the Ministry of Education will move towards the development of a number of courses for secondary school students using the computer-assisted instruction method and the computer-managed mode of pacing and monitoring. The Ontario Education Communications Authority will be involved in determining the most appropriate and effective way of delivering the courses to small secondary schools in the north.

The Ministry of Education will consider the further development of self-learning packages in priority areas, which might include electronics, data processing and word processing. Materials already available from the colleges of applied arts and technology will be examined for possible use.

**2:10 p.m.**

We acknowledge, in response to Mr. Allan's excellent report, the need for additional human resources to implement effectively curriculum policies in the north and to enhance the range of secondary school course offerings in that part of our province. We intend, therefore, to second up to nine resource persons with specialized skills to provide direct services in selected subject areas. The specific needs will be determined by the officials within the ministry's northern regional offices in co-operation with the northern school boards.

I am pleased to be able to make this announcement today and to distribute to all the members of the House the report of the ministry's response to the Allan report on northern secondary schools.

#### VISITOR

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding and with the indulgence of the House, I would ask all members to join with me in welcoming the Honourable Clarence E. James, Deputy Premier of Bermuda, who is in the Speaker's gallery this afternoon.

#### PORT ARTHUR CENTENNIAL

**Mr. Foulds:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: As the member for Port Arthur, I would like to bring to the Legislature's attention that in this time of dubious bicentennials we are this year celebrating a genuine centennial. Exactly 100 years ago yesterday there was acclaimed in this Legislature an act which proclaimed the town of Port Arthur and separated it from the municipality of Shuniah. I would like all members to join me in wishing Port Arthur a really happy 100th birthday.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

#### ORAL QUESTIONS

##### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Minister of Education. How does she explain to the House, particularly in view of statements made by her seatmate, the Minister responsible



for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch), the continuing record in the school system of this province over which she has some responsibility for leadership, if not jurisdiction, of inadequate representation of women in senior positions?

The minister must surely be aware, aside from her own pre-eminent position, that women share in positions of leadership as directors of education, principals and so on at a level of approximately 10 per cent or less in most parts of the province. Does this concern the minister? If so, what plans does she have to persuade the various school boards and other leading jurisdictions to correct the situation?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I am delighted the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk asked that question. I would like him to be aware that we have taken some very significant initiatives in the past four or five years in the Ministry of Education related specifically to the roles played by women in the educational system. We have been particularly enthusiastic about the kinds of things we have been able to do.

One of the first, and I think most important, acts I have been able to be a part of since assuming some responsibility for this ministry was the removal of the quota requirement for admission to principals' courses in Ontario. As the member knows, there was a very restrictive admission procedure which almost ensured that very small numbers of—

**Mr. Nixon:** That is when the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch) was Minister of Education.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I am not sure he introduced it, as a matter of fact. I believe it has been there for some time.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Now to the question, please.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** We removed that requirement. Since then there has been a very dramatic increase in the participation of women in the principals' courses, and 35 per cent of the enrollees in those courses are now women and will have the qualifications to assume the roles of greater responsibility about which the member speaks.

In addition, I would invite the member to participate in, or at least to come and listen to, a very important conference that is being held at the end of this week in conjunction with the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario, other teachers' federations and my colleague the Minister responsible for Women's Issues. We will be discussing very precisely the

kinds of things we are proposing to do in the future related to increasing the opportunities for women in areas of responsibility, beyond the very important responsibility of teaching in the classroom within the school system of Ontario.

**Mr. Nixon:** We recognize the minister's own responsibility in being a rather imposing token in this connection. But is she not aware—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: No human being has ever accused me of being a token, and this one is not going to get away with it.

**Mr. Speaker:** And now for the supplementary.

**Mr. Nixon:** Since she is the only significant woman in a position of significance in education, I will not withdraw "token" but I will withdraw "imposing."

I wonder if the minister does not recall giving me the same answer at least 18 months ago to a similar question when she had persuaded the Deputy Premier to support her in the withdrawal of the rather ridiculous exclusion that kept women out of that course. Is she not now aware that, while women do have better access to the principals' course, in fact, the overall numbers being appointed to principalships have actually gone down, according to a recent report that was made public, I believe, about three weeks ago?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I think perhaps the honourable member's time memory may be a tiny bit warped. None the less, it is of significance that there is an addition to what I said at that point, which I pronounced today. The honourable member also has to recall that the number of principalships available has decreased rather dramatically in the time frame about which he speaks as well, since the numbers of students in our elementary system also have declined rather dramatically.

It is a matter of grave importance to everyone within the education system because of the fact that there has always been an understanding that women were equal in the delivery of education programs in the classroom. That has been one of the principles upon which education has been based for these past three or four decades at any rate. But the real problem related to the advancement of women in the administration is one that has been of real concern.

To say there are no women in roles of importance is entirely wrong. There are not enough of them, but there are some very significant and very imposing women who are responsible for the administration of education



within Ontario, far beyond the small figure of the Minister of Education.

I would also remind the honourable member that this province shares this difficulty with a number of other jurisdictions. I am delighted to see that there is a worldwide movement to the resolution of the problem. There are many jurisdictions that have traditionally never had a female Minister of Education which now do have just this kind of representation. In Canada itself the number of ministers on the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada, who happen to be female is increasing by leaps and bounds annually, a matter that gives me some satisfaction regularly.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, without getting into the minister's leaps and bounds, I wonder if she can confirm that the number of women who are principals today, not only in absolute numbers but as a proportion, has declined over the last 10 years, according to the recent figures. Can she confirm that fact?

Given the fact that this is happening, why is the government so reluctant to introduce mandatory affirmative action programs that would apply to boards of education and to the rest of the public sector instead of relying on an entirely voluntary approach, which clearly is not working and is not doing the kind of job that needs to be done for the women of this province?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** There has been a very strong commitment on the part of government to demonstrate to all those agencies that our example is a very good one. I would ask the leader of the third party to cast his eyes upon the university system of this province. If he thinks the elementary-secondary school system has a problem, he should take a look at the universities, and our universities have done significantly better than some others.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** We have been working diligently with many bodies related to education, attempting to demonstrate to them as clearly as we possibly can the advantage to the system of ensuring that they utilize effectively all the human resources available to them. This is precisely what we shall continue to do. But we are demonstrating to them that our example is a very good one and one they should follow.

2:20 p.m.

**Mr. Nixon:** The minister probably understands that the universities have been more progressive in this regard since they are

autonomous, but the school boards come under the regulation of the minister herself, who said, as I understood her just a few moments ago, that a women's place was in the classroom.

It is unfortunately true in this jurisdiction that most of the women going into education do find their top usefulness in the classroom, where they do a marvellous job. We on this side of the House are concerned that the policies enunciated by the minister and her colleague immediately to her left are very high-sounding in many respects, but are not practical in assisting women gain positions of true significance in administration in education in this province.

Naturally the minister and others can point to individuals who have achieved high positions, such as the minister herself, but the statistics still indicate that under her jurisdiction and regulations the proportion has actually gone down. The answer she gave previously is the same one she gave many months ago. What new initiatives is she going to bring forward to correct the situation, which is an embarrassment for everyone in this province?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I suggest to the honourable member that I would be pleased to make an appointment for him with either the appropriate neurologist or hearing specialist, because I did not say what he said I said.

I said women in this province have done a superb job in the classroom, but that we need their expertise and their capabilities in administration as well as in the classroom. I remind the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk that if he were to look at the statistics, he would find they were significantly better in the elementary and secondary school system up to this point than they have been in the university system.

Autonomy is the argument he was giving. Nothing is more autonomous at the present time than boards of education in Ontario. We certainly will continue to work with them.

The reason I invited the member to the conference was so that he would hear what it was we were going to be proposing to discuss with the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario and others this weekend regarding the roles of women in administration in the school system.

#### FARM BANKRUPTCIES

**Mr. Riddell:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Deputy Premier. Anticipating this response that my question should be directed to the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr.



Timbrell), I waited very patiently all last week for the minister to show and he failed to do so.

The Provincial Secretary for Resources Development (Mr. Sterling) and the Premier (Mr. Davis) are not here today, so the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch) is going to be given an opportunity to rise to the occasion, as he is so often wont to do.

Farm bankruptcies in Canada are higher this year than they were at the same time last year. The majority of farm bankruptcies are occurring right here in this province. For more than two years, the Minister of Agriculture and Food has said he will not provide assistance to the red meat industry similar to that in the other provinces because it would appear to be bargaining in bad faith for a federal-provincial agreement on a tripartite stabilization program. Such a program has not materialized to this point and the speech from the throne gave no indication of this government's consideration of the immediate and long-term requirements of the agricultural industry.

Does the Deputy Premier not think the agricultural industry in this province is too important for the government to ignore as it has been doing? If he thinks it is an important industry in this province, what assistance is being planned for the farmers who are facing financial ruin at this time and have been for two or three years?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, to answer the first part of the question, there is absolutely no question in my mind or in the minds of my colleagues with respect to the importance we attach to the whole agricultural industry. I think the record of this administration speaks very clearly with respect to that and I think we are agreed as to the role that industry plays in the economic wellbeing of this province and of Canada.

In fairness, I should point out that it was my understanding the Minister of Agriculture and Food was in his place on Thursday of last week during question period.

**Mr. Ruston:** Just for the vote, not for question period.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** That is a matter of fact which could be established one way or the other. No doubt when he comes back—he has other responsibilities—he can clear that up.

The speech from the throne was clear because of the items that were set out with respect to the creation of a widely representative advisory council on agriculture to bring the best people together to assist in some appreciation with

respect to the problems faced by this industry, the commercial crop development fund to which reference was made and the crop research in so far as the north is concerned, and the intensification of effort to expand the export markets.

Certainly those, among others, are some indication of the importance the government places with respect to agriculture. No doubt the minister will be expanding on the initiatives referred to in the speech from the throne at the first opportunity.

**Mr. Riddell:** An advisory council to the Minister of Agriculture and Food will render absolutely no assistance to the farmers who are in trouble at present or to the farmers who will be in trouble next year or the year after. I am convinced of that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Riddell:** Furthermore, I think the Deputy Premier should realize that this government's commitment to the agricultural industry amounts to less than one per cent of the total provincial budget.

In view of the fact that the last two or three years have been very difficult years for the beef producers of this province and many of them have gone bankrupt, and in view of the fact that this past year has been a virtual disaster for pork producers with the average price down to \$68 per hundredweight, hitting a low of \$58 last September, which is down from \$80 last year at this time—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Riddell:**—and in view of the fact that the great majority of the farmers, at the very best, have only been recovering direct costs with nothing left over for their debt payments or management costs, what assistance—

**Mr. Speaker:** All right, away you go—what assistance?

**Mr. Riddell:** What assistance are you giving to your farmers in Peterborough, Mr. Speaker?

What assistance does this government have for the farmers who are not going to be able to continue meeting their obligations with the price of food the way it is, with the high interest debts and what have you? What subsidies and programs are going to be given to our farmers so that they can at least survive until such time as a tripartite stabilization program comes into effect, if indeed it ever does?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I have been in my place here on many occasions when the Minister of Agriculture and Food has responded to this type of question from the member for Huron-



Middlesex (Mr. Riddell). I do not think there is any question that the plight of the agricultural producer is a very legitimate concern. The member knows that in the red meat industry there was the establishment of the agency to which reference was made and there have been specific programs with respect to financing and dealing with them on an individual basis.

At this stage, I hope we do not lose sight of the advantage of bringing together for purposes of consultation representatives from many segments of the agricultural area. On this side of the House, we believe in consultation. No doubt there will be a great deal of benefit derived from that, in addition to the ongoing programs at present in place, about which the Minister of Agriculture and Food has commented from time to time in response to questions or at the time of making his announcements.

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Deputy Premier could tell us if the Minister of Agriculture and Food is in hiding because both his programs of assistance to the farmers and his leadership aspirations are in shambles. He has not been here to answer any questions so far this session.

Recognizing that the Deputy Premier may not be terribly familiar with agricultural matters and statements that have been made, does he not realize that the estimate made by both the Minister of Agriculture and Food and the federal Minister of Agriculture was that no tripartite program for red meat will be signed before July at least?

Does he not realize this means no program can be in place until at least the end of this year? Farmers are going out of business and are going bankrupt now. Bankruptcies were up 50 per cent in the first two months of this year over the previous year. Does he not realize that the tripartite program may be in total jeopardy? There may be no federal government at all by July.

Recognizing those facts, and they are facts, would the Deputy Premier at least promote with the Minister of Agriculture and Food the immediate implementation of a provincial red meat stabilization program such as they have in the other provinces so that our farmers can at least get some assistance this year, even though it is two years behind what other provinces have done?

2:30 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, I have one or two observations, if I may be permitted. First, the Minister of Agriculture and Food in this

administration certainly has been very definite as to where the leadership should come from in this matter. He has reminded this House from time to time where that leadership should stem from, and it is to be hoped that as the federal minister is giving some consideration to his future he might include some positive initiatives in this regard, as our Minister of Agriculture and Food has been saying from time to time.

The member for Welland-Thorold (Mr. Swart) makes one mistake in his preamble. He suggests I do not have any familiarity with matters of agriculture. I have represented a rural riding in this House for nearly 21 years and I am very proud of that. I think he slights the people of the riding of Lincoln and the people of the riding of Brock to suggest their members have not been familiar with matters of agriculture.

Because of the particular interest of this government in that area, we have seen the agriculture industry grow. We can only hope the benefits that flow from agricultural production in our area might be enjoyed by all who are involved in this, and it is about time we saw some evidence of this by sound federal leadership. That is what we need in this matter.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. McKessock:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Minister of Agriculture and Food keeps saying he cannot assist the Ontario farmers in case it would jeopardize the tripartite stabilization plan, is the Deputy Premier not aware that as long as the other provinces can keep us at a disadvantage they are in no hurry to bring in a stabilization plan? As long as they are getting good programs and have them in place, they do not care if there is never a stabilization plan.

Would it not be better for Ontario to move in the same direction as the other provinces and bring in these programs for Ontario now? In my opinion that would help bring on the stabilization plan at a later date, because then we would not be the disadvantaged province and we would be up there with the rest of them.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I think our Minister of Agriculture and Food has been very clear with respect to this matter, and I doubt very much that the member opposite really disagrees with him basically when one thinks of what the ultimate and proper solution should be with respect to this matter.

**Mr. Rae:** I thought the ice dancing was finished on Sunday, Mr. Speaker, but obviously it is not.



**Mr. Harris:** That was just a replay.

**Mr. Rae:** That is true, The one-man Torvill and Dean has just sat down.

### CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Education. A number of things were mentioned in the speech from the throne, some of which are only now being fleshed out and flushed out of the ministry as we try to come to grips with exactly what is the meaning of some of these so-called reforms.

I would like to suggest to the minister that, while the thrust of the reforms is directed towards the advanced-level student in the Ontario Schools, Intermediate and Senior Divisions program, and the academically oriented student in the program today, the concern we have in this party is with those students who are dropping out of the system. Of those who begin this general level course today, only one in 25, or four per cent, will complete a community college course.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** In particular, I would like to ask the minister what she is doing about the drop-out rate in our secondary schools today, about the students who are leaving school early and about those large numbers of students who, because they are not able to take advantage of our education system, are at a tremendous disadvantage when it comes to competing for jobs and competing for skills training in Ontario today.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I would invite the member for York South to reread the documentation that was developed at the beginning of the secondary education review project.

In this House and elsewhere, I stated very clearly the very purpose of that project, which was that the system of public education in Ontario had done a superb job in general to support those students who are academically inclined and who are going to proceed to university; it was because we had concern about the students who were being taught at the general level and at the basic level that the SERP activity was initiated, and it is in toto in that report and in the response of the government that we have concentrated primarily on the students who will be studying at those other two levels.

There is not a great deal that we have to do to improve the academic programs for students studying at the advanced levels. They are being dealt with very well.

We still have significant concerns, particularly about students studying at the general level, and for the first time we are developing a curriculum

specifically for those students. It is not going to be a watered-down advanced-level curriculum. It will be a curriculum developed specifically for those students in subjects such as mathematics and English.

Specific curriculum has been developed for them in the past in the areas in which they studied primarily, but we are looking at the other core subjects as well. Our concern about that has led us to Ontario Schools, Intermediate and Secondary Divisions curriculum guidelines and the Renewal of Secondary Education.

If one gets past the headlines of the newspapers which talk almost only about fast-tracking the academically oriented students so they can get into university in four years instead of five, and if one looks at all the recommendations contained in both OSIS and ROSE—if one looks at all three—one will find out that we are concentrating very heavily on the concern for those students in the general-level courses.

That concern remains and it is an active part of all of the industry of the Ministry of Education at this point. In conjunction with representatives of the college system and with teachers who have had experience teaching the students who study at the general level specifically, those new curricula are in the process of being developed. Some of them have already been developed, but most of them are in the process of being developed and will be introduced for their benefit. Surely if we make their courses more relevant and more understandable to them in their value and worth, they will not drop out at the rates at which they were dropping out in the past.

I would also like to remind the member that the drop-out rate has declined quite significantly over the past couple of years and we have a greater retention of students in the secondary school program than in the five or six years before that. I hope that will continue, because the students will understand the worth of their secondary school courses.

**Mr. Rae:** The minister may take pride in a 40 per cent drop-out rate in the secondary schools, but I do not think anyone in this House can be satisfied when we have that kind of problem—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** The minister can huff and puff all she likes, but she is sitting on a very real problem in our educational system that is systematically discriminated against in terms of opportunity and chance—a chance to learn and a chance to earn—for the average student in this province. That is the difficulty a great many people are



having with the so-called reforms she is introducing

**Mr. Speaker:** Question.

**Mr. Rae:** If everything is so okay in the system, how can the minister justify the decline in the last year in the number of apprentices in Ontario at a time when youth unemployment is at a peak? How can she justify the fact that in absolute numbers the number of apprentices has gone down?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** The honourable member asked that question either Thursday or Friday last week and it was explained to him very clearly that there was a one-year decline last year, during a year of rather severe economic downturn when there were not as many apprenticeship places.

I hope the member will be aware that as a result of the introduction of the linkage program we have a very large number of students, approximately 12,000 annually, who come out of the secondary school system with one third of the academic portion of a registered apprenticeship already in hand by the time they leave the secondary schools. They are in need of apprenticeship places in industry.

It is not the school system which is at fault. At present, we are attempting to encourage industry to become more actively involved with the provision of the remainder of the hands-on procedure which is necessary for an apprenticeship.

The member reminds me of the question about who is an optimist and who is a pessimist. I ask him whether his glass is one quarter full or three quarters empty. That is the kind of turn of phrase he is attempting to impose upon the remarks which I made about the rate at which students leave and drop back into the secondary system.

As the member may know, we have had considerable success with drop-back programs in a number of boards, particularly in urban areas, in the last two or three years. A very large number of students are coming back to the secondary schools because they realize they need that educational program to proceed to the kind of training they require.

2:40 p.m.

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, how does the minister expect boards of education in Ontario to successfully implement the OSIS proposals—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I expect them to do it without splitting infinitives anyway.

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind the classroom instruction.

**Mr. Bradley:** The minister has almost thrown me off, but not quite.

How does the minister expect boards of education in Ontario to successfully implement the OSIS proposals when she has provided less of the percentage of the cost of education? It has gone from more than 61 per cent of the cost of education in 1975 on an average across the province being provided by the provincial government, to a point today where it is about 48.5 per cent of the cost of education being provided by the provincial government. How does the minister expect boards of education to deliver on the great plans she has for them when she refuses to fund them adequately?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, there is no refusal to fund them adequately at all. As a matter of fact, I am sure the honourable member will be aware that if we take into account all the funds provided by the provincial government in support of education, the total support provided by the province in 1983 is something on the order of 58.4 per cent.

**Mr. Bradley:** I used the figures the minister gave me.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** The member would just like to subtract the things he does not want to see in there.

The number of dollars being provided annually for students has increased regularly. I believe that regular increase will continue and will provide the boards with the wherewithal to do what is required on behalf of students.

**Mr. Rae:** The minister stated that OSIS is directed at the general-level student, which I think is contrary to the facts and the experience. Can she tell us whether her ministry has done a survey of boards of education with respect to the options students are currently choosing? Can she confirm that a number of boards and schools are finding that students are orienting themselves almost entirely to the advanced program and that the number of technical and vocational courses being offered is on the decline as a direct result of the OSIS program?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** No, I cannot confirm that. There have been some statements made by some representatives of some school boards, particularly in certain subjects, who believe there will be a decline in the number of applicants and that the number of students they are talking to may be slightly fewer than last year. We will probably not have that information until the June report of the boards because that is when we will



have the understanding of what is being provided.

There is no reason whatever for a decline in participation in technical and business subjects. For the very first time, technical and business subjects are a mandatory requirement for credit for graduation from secondary school in this province. Surely the number of options left beyond those that are mandatory provides students with adequate space to ensure they participate in those programs.

I remind the member there is no law that says the school program has to be from nine o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon. There is no law that says a student in secondary school has to stick to only six or seven subjects in a year; in fact, they can acquire more if they wish to try. There is no law that says the schools themselves cannot schedule more flexibility within the curriculum than they have been able to do in the past. I hope all those circumstances would come into play.

#### HATE LITERATURE

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my next question is for the Deputy Premier in his role as the Minister responsible for Women's Issues

I am sure the Deputy Premier is aware of the decision of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission in the Red Eye case. I am sure he will be aware of the fact that the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code specifically prohibits the publication or display of any material that exposes or tends to expose to hatred, ridicules, belittles or otherwise affronts the dignity of any person or class of persons on the grounds of race, creed, religion, colour and sex.

He will be aware of the fact that a sociology professor at the University of Saskatchewan was able to bring in action against the Red Eye, a student publication at the university, which was found by the commission to be offensive towards women on the grounds that it reinforced and legitimized prejudice against women and prolonged the existence of hangovers of prejudice against equal female participation in education, work, aspects of social life and the professions.

Yet if the same publication were found in Ontario, it would not be possible to bring an action against the publication under the Human Rights Code of this province.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** Is the Deputy Premier aware of the fact that Ontario does not have legislation which protects women in this way and gives them a cause of action under the Human Rights Code? Is

he prepared to introduce amendments to the code which would protect women against abusive publications of this kind and give them a right of action under our human rights legislation?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, I would be supportive of any legislation or regulation that would make it quite clear that it is unacceptable in this jurisdiction, as it should be throughout the entire country, for any depiction of women that would be degrading from the standpoint of these particular matters. I do not think there is any excuse to permit the exploitation of any person along these lines.

**Mr. Rae:** If that is the minister's view, will he introduce amendments to the Human Rights Code to allow women protection against this kind of material?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I answered in the way I did because I would want the opportunity to satisfy myself, in consultation with the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) and others, that this is the case.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, if any amendment is to be introduced—and I hope the minister might look at it in this context—surely hate literature or literature that is degrading to any person should not be covered. Whether it is going to be covered under the Human Rights Code or otherwise, would the minister expand the scope of his mandate to decry this kind of literature, not simply against women but against all people?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, I thought in my answer to the leader of the third party, I made it quite clear that I am opposed to the exploitation of any person.

**Mr. Rae:** If that is the case, if the minister is so concerned, can he explain why it is that in Ontario, joined only by British Columbia, we do not have legislation that allows racial groups, different individuals, as well as women as a class, to make representation to the Ontario Human Rights Commission with respect to publications that belittle them or expose them to this kind of degradation? Why is it that Ontario is last in the pack in terms of this kind of legislation?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** The difficulty in responding to questions such as these is that in responding it would be reasonable to assume that I am agreeing with the preamble to the question.

In response to the main question, I indicated I would want to satisfy myself that the opinions contained in the main question were in fact the situation. I will take this matter up with the Attorney General.



## PITS AND QUARRIES POLICY

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Natural Resources. It concerns his plans to impose gravel extraction areas on municipalities through the recently released mineral aggregate resource planning policy and its application to the Planning Act.

In view of the fact that serious concerns have been expressed by a number of municipalities over the attempts to award dictatorial powers to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett) over the location of gravel pits, while at the same time bypassing debate in this legislature on the proposed policy, will he now withdraw the policy statement and put the policy through proper consultative processes of public hearings where it can be debated?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member had wanted to have a discussion on this policy, which has been out for a year now—

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** No, it has not.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Yes, it has. It was stated by the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) and myself in this Legislature more than a year ago. The member had better get his facts straight.

If he had wanted to discuss this policy, he could have done so in the estimates of this ministry last November and December. He chose not to. It is on his head. We distributed the policy to the municipalities throughout the province and are engaged in the public consultation process about which he speaks so eloquently.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, as a point of clarification or perhaps a point of privilege: The minister knows the municipalities did not receive copies of the proposed policy until December 1983 and were told to reply by February 3.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** One of their great complaints is that they have not had time to properly assess what the policy means to each of their municipalities. In view of the fact that he has yet to reintroduce his new Aggregates Act, which was to replace the Pits and Quarries Control Act of 1971—which was withdrawn in 1981 and which has never seen the light of day since, but which has been promised a number of times—will he now defer this policy until he has introduced the legislature to complement it, rather than trying to slip this nonsense through the back door?

2:50 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** I do not know where the member has been for the past year. The Minister

of Agriculture and Food and I made a public statement in this Legislature on the same day. We distributed that policy to the members. We distributed it to the various interest groups, including municipalities, and there was discussion during the past summer.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** What are these letters?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Just relax. It then went to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing under the provisions of the Planning Act. The provisions of the Planning Act—

**Ms. Copps:** Where is your brother?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Go exercise your pout somewhere else.

The provisions of the Planning Act which came into effect at the end of August then necessitated the implementation of the provincial policy planning process. Under that process we redistributed it again in the fall of the year. Some municipalities have written to me lately to say they want an extended period of time to comment. That is fine. I have extended periods of time for comment, but I am not going to abandon this policy; nor are we going to abandon other necessary environmental protection planning policies under the Planning Act.

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, even if that is true, where is the Timmins food terminal?

## AMATEUR HOCKEY

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. Is the minister aware of a study by the product safety branch of the federal Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs to establish a data bank of accident injury information?

Is the minister further aware that in the case of only four hospitals out of 1,000 institutions in Canada that participated in this study, one of them being the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children, of the top 20 products of activities that have caused accidents, hockey has the highest incidence of accidents, some 1,165 cases of serious accidents in the four institutions alone? Is the minister aware that these involved 576 boys between the ages of five and 14 and another 394 between the ages of 15 and 24? Is the minister aware that this represents 13 per cent of all the accidents and, finally, most of them—

**Mr. Speaker:** And now for the question.

**Mr. Martel:** This is serious, because 28 per cent represent head accidents, and 13 or 15 were skull fractures. When are we going to have enough courage as a society to put an end to the goon tactics that still plague hockey today?



**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, I am not fully aware of all the details of the study that has been alluded to by the honourable member, but I am fully aware of the ongoing concern in the hockey field. We are concerned about safety in all sports, but particularly with hockey because it is obvious, as the member has pointed out, that there seem to be more injuries in that sport than in any other.

We have taken up this matter with organized amateur hockey on many occasions, as I know the member knows. We have considered with them the possibility of government taking a more direct hand in controlling the sport. As the member knows, because he has been part of these discussions, we have so far tended to back away because we feel it is always a question of how far government should be involved in controlling amateur sports.

The concern he has expressed is a concern that we continue to have. It is one that we have been taking up with amateur sport and amateur hockey, and we will again approach them on this. Over the past five, six or seven years we have spent an enormous amount of money, largely through Wintario grants, for the purchase of protective equipment for hockey players. As many here know, the best protective equipment in the world sometimes is not going to prevent injury if there are, as he has referred to them, goon tactics.

All I can say to the member is that we are aware of the problem. We are trying through various ways and means to mitigate the problem and to reduce the dangers of injuries; that means continuing to talk with amateur hockey people. However, there may well come a time when, very reluctantly, government is going to have to take a very strong hand in this and, frankly, for me that would be a sad day for amateur hockey.

**Mr. Martel:** I agree with much of what the minister is saying in that I do not think we should have to interfere. However, in view of the past five or six years' experience and in view of just one hockey tournament I was at recently, where in one game two youngsters were taken to the hospital on stretchers, are we prepared to move in and say to amateur hockey, even though we do not want to, that we will outlaw fighting, that we will insist bodily contact remain out of the game until midget level and that we will insist on stiffer penalties for the use of the stick as a weapon, which is creating many of these injuries?

Finally, are we prepared to introduce a new rule that will not allow charging from behind, as has just happened in Manitoba, where you are not

allowed to hit someone from behind because there is no defence against it?

Are we prepared to move in those directions to protect boys up to the age of 16 until they are mature enough to look after themselves, or are we going to let this mayhem continue, despite the fact that we do not want to interfere?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** I am not prepared to commit myself or this government to any specific intervention as to how high one can carry a stick or what one can do with respect to one's conduct on the ice; I am not prepared to respond on the specific issues.

What I want to say here, and we have said this to amateur hockey in this province, is that if the problem continues, we may, with the greatest of reluctance, have to take much sterner measures than we have before.

Finally, just a few months ago we asked Mr. Syl Apps, who is a well-known hockey player in this province and around the world, to spend many hours talking to amateur hockey people in Ontario, trying to get them to understand that this is one of the problems and trying to help them in their organization.

At this time I do not know precisely where the matter stands, but the concern is here. If it continues, with the greatest of reluctance we are going to have to do more about it.

**Mr. Sweeney:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the minister has disbanded the group of people within his ministry that was working directly on hockey, what mechanism does he have within his ministry to deal with this problem? With whom is he talking? What kind of communication links does he have with amateur hockey in Ontario? It is all very well to stand here and tell us his concerns, but what mechanism is in place so he can deal with this issue?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, at the present time we are in a period of transition. Through the efforts of this government and my ministry, two or three years ago we established the Hockey Ontario Development Committee, which helped the amateur hockey associations to improve their refereeing and their coaching, which in turn certainly results in a safer game and so on.

The organized amateur leagues in this province felt the Hockey Ontario Development Committee was not quite the kind of mechanism they wanted, and that is why we asked Mr. Syl Apps to work with them to set up some kind of mechanism, the kind of thing the honourable member is referring to, a better mechanism to work with organized hockey.



That is where the matter stands at the present time, but I certainly welcome the questions and interventions by both members on a matter that is of the utmost and greatest importance to us.

#### BARRIE-VESPRE ANNEXATION BILL

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The minister is obviously aware of Bill 142, which deals with the annexation of a large tract of land in Vespra township by the city of Barrie; and he is aware that a lot of interest has been shown in this and, indeed, a lot of opposition to it.

**3 p.m.**

Given the fact that the material presented to the standing committee on general government was overwhelmingly in opposition to the bill, will the minister give the House his assurance that he is now prepared to withdraw this iniquitous piece of legislation and thereby spare the people of Vespra losing over 90 per cent of their commercial assessment and a lot of other important land which they so dearly would like to keep?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, my answer to that question is, very simply, no.

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, given the fact that the taxpayers of Barrie and Vespra expended a great deal of money on the number of hearings before the Ontario Municipal Board and other judicial bodies, will the minister recommend to his colleagues the compensation of legal, planning and other consultative costs to the two municipalities of Barrie and Vespra so that because of this piece of legislation, which took precedence over all their other hearings, they would get some kind of compensation in their expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars on legal fees and other costs?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** I understand Barrie and Vespra have had a number of discussions. They met again, I believe last Wednesday or Thursday evening, with the Solicitor General (Mr. G. W. Taylor). I believe the member for Waterloo North was there as a representative of the municipality as well.

It very clearly is stated and set out that the amount of money that will go to Vespra in exchange for the lands that go into the city of Barrie is negotiable. What is included in those negotiations is wide open.

I am hoping that Vespra and Barrie, with the assistance of others, will come back to the ministry with a recommendation on what they believe is a clear and proper settlement. We have not excluded any items being put into that for settlement purposes.

**Mr. Breagh:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if he intends to proceed with this legislation despite the fact that these financial negotiations have gone nowhere and are nowhere near being concluded. Does he intend to proceed with the legislation or has he completely turned this bill over to the Solicitor General? Is he the minister whom we should now question on this particular matter?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** No, Mr. Speaker, the bill is not turned over to the Solicitor General. The Solicitor General has been very supportive and helpful in trying to find some solution to the problem. Vespra has not indicated any willingness to sit down, discuss and negotiate a settlement for its own benefit.

The legislation very clearly spells out that Vespra has the opportunity, along with Barrie and the county, to negotiate an appropriate settlement. If no settlement can be determined by those parties, then it ultimately is the responsibility of the Minister of Municipal Affairs, through his colleagues in cabinet, to make a recommendation.

#### GREAT LAKES STEEL LTD.

**Mr. Foulds:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. I wonder if I could also have the attention of the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (Mr. Elgie). I think he has had some involvement in this issue.

I would like to refer to the matter of some 50 employees of Great Lakes Steel in Thunder Bay who were laid off about three weeks ago and are only now being called back. Can the minister explain why, when Great Lakes Steel did not go into bankruptcy or receivership, the men were unable to cash their cheques from the Bank of Nova Scotia in Thunder Bay for some two to two and a half weeks?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that matter has been cleared up. Is there an ongoing problem? Have they not had their money?

**Mr. Foulds:** I want to ask the minister why they were unable to cash their cheques or have their cheques cashed when the company was not in receivership or in bankruptcy. I would like him to assure us that his government will take legislative steps so that kind of thing does not happen again.

I would like to know if, in his investigations, he found out whether China Steel of Sault Ste. Marie, the parent company, was draining the subsidiary company so that the cheques could not be cashed.



I would also like him to give us the assurance that his employment standards branch in Thunder Bay will process immediately any complaint by those workers or other workers in similar circumstances.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I can respond to the third part of the honourable member's question very quickly and very positively. Certainly, regardless of the complaint brought before our employment standards people, they do investigate it very competently and very quickly. That will be the case as far as Thunder Bay is concerned.

I understand the problem arose from a disagreement between the parent company and the particular bank branch in question. That problem was resolved and people had their money. It is as simple as that.

### PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, I have a new question for the Minister of Labour. The minister, I am sure, is aware of the growing concern over the abuse of probationary employees in our province. Specifically, I know he will recall the details of the situation at Central Stampings Ltd. in Windsor, which I provided to him earlier this winter during our exchanges of correspondence.

In a recent period, only 25 of 160 probationary employees survived their probationary gauntlet. The remainder were thrown back on the unemployment rolls because they took sick time, were injured on the job, were called unsuitable or the employer claimed a lack of work and then hired new workers the following week. Has the minister investigated the situation at Central Stampings, as I requested two months ago? If not, why not? What action is he prepared to take to prevent the abuse of probationary workers in Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, the answer is that my ministry did not investigate Central Stampings, as requested by the member.

**Mr. Wrye:** Quite frankly, I am appalled the minister has not looked into this matter. It seems to me when 160 workers are hired over about a two-month period and only 25 survive the probationary period, there is something very wrong. I would urge him, once again, to look into the matter.

I want to question the minister specifically in my supplementary about the release of workers who have suffered work-related injuries, since this minister is also in charge of the Workers' Compensation Board. I am going to send him a list of nine probationary employees of Chrysler

Canada in Windsor, who were released over the past few months after they filed legitimate claims for workers' compensation. The list provides one more example of the need for legislative change to protect probationary employees.

What action is the minister prepared to take to protect workers who are injured during their probationary period from being arbitrarily dismissed as a result? Does the minister intend to propose changes in the law to deny companies the right to dismiss any employee, while that employee is temporarily disabled as a result of an on-the-job injury?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member and I have had considerable detailed correspondence on this matter. While we are not investigating the particular circumstance he described, we are taking a look at the whole matter of probationary employments and separations. Whether there will be any changes or amendments to the act, I cannot say at this time.

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, does the minister not feel that it is at least worth looking at amendments to the Human Rights Code and to the Workers' Compensation Act to give people protection during this 60- or 90-day period so that if they are legitimately ill or injured on the job through no fault of their own, they cannot have their employment terminated?

Let me give the minister one another example of an employee at Chrysler Canada, who during his 90 days missed three days because his mother died. The company fired him, saying his attendance was poor, even though the only three days he missed during his period at Chrysler were the three days he was off to attend the funeral and to be with the family.

Does the minister not understand that unless he takes action to protect workers, because of high unemployment the companies are treating employees as if they are just objects? Because it is an employers' market, they have no respect for these people. It is up to the government to take appropriate action to protect them.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I accept what the honourable member is saying, but I cannot quite agree. I find it difficult to think a responsible company such as Chrysler would deliberately peddle in probationary employees and would go out of its way to take advantage of those probationary employees. I also feel this is a matter that can be addressed by collective bargaining in the case of Chrysler.

Despite all that, the point is yes, we are looking at it. I believe I wrote to the member not



too long ago suggesting that if he wished, he could bring in representatives from one of the unions in question. I would be pleased to meet with them and to discuss the matter further.

**3:10 p.m.**

It is a complex matter, and I do not want to make any snap statements here on what the eventual outcome will be. Certainly, we will take a look at it and talk to the people involved. We have already made that offer, and I am sure we can work something out.

#### HAMILTON GO-ALRT

**Mr. Allen:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transportation and Communications. If he would like to follow protocol and return to his seat, we can proceed with the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Go ahead, please.

**Mr. Allen:** I would like to ask the minister a question with respect to GO advanced light rapid transit and the issue that prevails in Hamilton at this time about the alternative entry routes.

First, with respect to the whole discussion and the process of the discussion, why have the GO-ALRT public relations style and processes been designed in such a way as to sideline genuine public debate and to keep individual citizens separate from public interest groups so that the debate might not proceed until a very late date? Why is it that whenever the minister is asked about the discussion of alternative routes of entry and destination in Hamilton, his final word—and, indeed, the final word of the minister from the neighbouring riding of Wentworth, the Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Mr. Dean)—usually ends in the form of a subtly couched threat that perhaps the system might never reach Hamilton or will perhaps end on its outskirts or terminate in Burlington?

Does the minister or does he not have confidence in the public in the Hamilton West region and in its elected officials to make the best decision for Hamilton and for the regional municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth with respect to the GO-ALRT entry route?

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** Mr. Speaker, I have a great deal of confidence in the public participation method. If the member were to go back over all the public participation procedure that has taken place in the city and in the regional municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth with regard to the GO-ALRT program over quite a number of months past, he would find that the technical advisory committee that worked for approximately a year to put forward the recommenda-

tions is a committee made up, I believe, of 10 people, eight of whom are citizens of Hamilton and of the regional municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth.

**Ms. Copps:** What about site selection?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** Only two of those people are provincial people. They have put forward what they feel is the best technical recommendation, and it is now going through a process of public participation. There were drop-in centre meetings last week in Hamilton and a full-day meeting on Saturday, I understand, that was well attended by both municipal representatives and the public. This is all part of the public participation process, and it will continue.

**Ms. Copps:** It is a watered-down farce and the minister knows it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** Eventually, I expect that the regional municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth and the city of Hamilton will make some recommendations to me. Whether those recommendations can be lived with, whether they will be acceptable, I cannot say at this moment.

**Ms. Copps:** Site selections should be made by the people of Hamilton, not—

**Mr. Speaker:** Would the member for Hamilton Centre—thank you.

#### PETITIONS

##### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, which reads as follows:

“To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

“We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

“Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

“We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action.”

This petition is signed by a number of residents from my riding of Beaches-Woodbine and by a number of people from other ridings in the Toronto area.



**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, I, too, have a petition, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This was signed by women across the great community of Hamilton who support not only the concept but the implementation.

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition is signed by a number of teachers from the community of Hornepayne in the Algoma riding.

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"As representatives of member organizations in the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, we, the undersigned, petition that the act to amend the Employment Standards Act, which was introduced in December 1983, Bill 141, be amended to provide for equal pay for work of equal value."

This petition is signed by 263 women attending the annual meeting last week of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women. They were delegates from most of the 280 organizations affiliated to the committee and

represent approximately three million women across Canada. A large number of the petitioners live in Ontario.

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

**Mr. Pollock:** Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, alternative and independent schools are a growing phenomenon in Ontario. Supporters of these institutions are currently being denied their basic right to choose this education for their children at no cost. Eight provinces in Canada provide various degrees of support for alternate schools. Ontario does not. I have a petition, which reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned, urge you as our representative to plead our case in the Ontario Legislature and correct this basic denial of human rights."

## ANNUAL REPORT, MINISTRY OF LABOUR

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to standing order 36(b), we, the undersigned members of the provincial parliament, petition that the annual report of the Ministry of Labour be referred to the standing committee on resources development for the purpose of committee consideration of the ministry's approach to enforcement of the Occupational Health and Safety Act at Westinghouse in Hamilton.

This petition is signed by 20 members of the Legislature.

## REPORT

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Mr. Kolyn from the standing committee on administration of justice presented the following report and moved its adoption:

Your committee begs to report the following bills with certain amendments:

Bill 100, An Act to revise and consolidate the Law respecting the Organization, Operation and Proceedings of Courts of Justice in Ontario.

Bill 122, An Act to revise the Architects Act.

Bill 123, An Act to revise the Professional Engineers Act.

Motion agreed to.

Bills ordered for committee of the whole House.

3:20 p.m.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### CITY OF TORONTO ACT

Mr. Shymko moved, seconded by Mr. Robinson, first reading of Bill Pr3, An Act respecting the City of Toronto.



Motion agreed to.

#### CITY OF ETOBICOKE ACT

Mr. Kolyn moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, first reading of Bill Pr47, An Act respecting the City of Etobicoke.

Motion agreed to.

#### LIQUOR LICENCE AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. Elgie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Gregory, first reading of Bill 11, An Act to amend the Liquor Licence Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing before the Legislature a series of amendments to the Liquor Licence Act. One of these amendments will prohibit a second application for a liquor licence for a period of two years following the rejection of the initial application when such rejection is based on the results of a public hearing.

I am told that on several occasions some applicants have filed new applications with the board shortly after each rejection, apparently in the hope that local opposition to the granting of a licence would simply be worn down. The liquor Licence Board of Ontario will retain the discretionary power to process a second application within the two-year period, if and when it is satisfied there has been a substantial change in the circumstances surrounding the application.

Further amendments contained in the legislation will provide for the formal amalgamation of the Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal and the Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal. The merged operation would continue under the latter name.

The amendments would also provide the LLBO with the authority to prescribe by regulation other types of identification to be given equal status to that of the Ontario photo card. Such regulations could conceivably permit the use of other legitimate photo identification, such as passports and so on.

Finally, section 1 of this bill will amend the act to broaden the definition of Ontario wine to include wine made from a combination of Ontario apples and imported apple juice. This amendment stems from a request from two of Ontario's wineries that wish to use imported apple juice to blend with cider produced in this province.

#### MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. Elgie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Gregory, first reading of Bill 12, An Act to

amend the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today what is essentially housekeeping legislation.

The first set of amendments relate to the ministry's Commercial Registration Appeal Tribunal and deals with such operational issues as membership, current limitations on the size of the tribunal and basic procedural matters, some of which are related to the amalgamation of CRAT and the Liquor Licence Appeal Tribunal.

The second amendment will permit ministry employees carrying out duties under the authority of one act to provide such information to other ministry staff working under another relevant act or to a peace officer where the employee has reason to believe a criminal offence has been committed.

#### CITY OF PETERBOROUGH ACT

Mr. Pollock moved, seconded by Mr. Shepard, first reading of Bill Pr42, An Act respecting the City of Peterborough.

Motion agreed to.

#### ASSOCIATION OF THE CHEMICAL PROFESSION OF ONTARIO ACT

Mr. Kennedy moved, seconded by Mr. Williams, first reading of Bill Pr9, An Act respecting the Association of the Chemical Profession of Ontario.

Motion agreed to.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I am not saying politicians do not occasionally use a little hyperbole or stretch the truth. The Premier (Mr. Davis) will be quite familiar with that himself. But to ask me to agree with the throne speech and its lack of direction would be to shame me forever in the eyes of every intelligent person in this province, in this country and perhaps even in North America. Therefore, I cannot bring myself to mouth the words that the Premier would like.

3:30 p.m.

However, I must say I am delighted that the Premier is in the House today. It is a rare



privilege to have him here to listen to one of my speeches. He is a busy chap.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Do not provoke me. I am liable to remind you that you did not even speak in the throne speech debate last year.

**Mr. Peterson:** I am quite happy to provoke the Premier, because he always embarrasses himself when I do provoke him. I am delighted in more ways than one that he is here, knowing he contemplated the vicissitudes of entering the great federal race. It is interesting that he clearly made the right choice in the circumstances, because he would have been completely out of politics for ever had he taken that route.

I note with great interest that his chances of a federal sinecure after the next federal election are diminishing also. We are very glad to have him here, particularly—

Interjection.

**Mr. Peterson:** The Premier said something.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I just said Mr. Nixon's candidate—

**Mr. Peterson:** Do not be so sure about what is really going on there. The Premier was quite right in not plunging into the great race himself, because it would have embarrassed him. That is all I am saying. In spite of his sins, many of us in a curious way are rather fond of him and do not want to see him embarrass himself in the twilight of his political career. We do not want him to have to go through what his federal colleague Joe Clark went through, attempting to cling to power by his fingernails.

Interjection.

**Mr. Peterson:** I just pass on certain observations to the Premier from across the floor when I see his colleagues regularly salivating and sheathing their daggers behind him. I understand some of the pressures that go with leadership of a political party, particularly when people are in decline, as the Premier has pointed out.

I wish him well because the issues we will be discussing now and some time in the future are this Premier's agenda, this Premier's vision for the province and his stewardship of the past decade or so. In fact, it runs back far longer than that, 22 years now in high public office, being a minister of the crown or the Premier of the province. He has brought with that a certain perspective, a certain responsibility for the past, as well as a responsibility for the vision of the future and presumably for some ideas that would be constructive to the debate.

We on the opposition side were looking to the throne speech for a clear indication of the

government's view of Ontario's great future. I can say those of us who hungered for some substance ended up very hungry after that throne speech. It was an opportunity, we felt, to put forward in clear, concise terms not just the vision but the specifics as well. According to the Premier, we will presumably be waiting for that for some time to come. Perhaps some of that will be forthcoming in the budget.

How can one expect an opposition to be even somewhat satisfied when the government, less than a week after the throne speech, has already equivocated on so many of its promises? I ask the Premier, what about province-wide testing? We have now had about seven or eight different opinions from the Premier, from the single most important bureaucrat in the province, Mr. Ed Stewart, and now the minister today said two or three different things. No one has any idea what this government's position is on province-wide testing.

I use that only as an example of the either ill-thought-out or not-thought-out policies of the government that leave very disappointed those of us who care about these things and are looking for clear direction and obviously looking for a redefinition of our educational institutions and the role they will play in our society. I assume we will go on for ever trying to extract the true meaning of that throne speech. I use that as an example of so many other things that went on in that rather vague document.

I intend to deal with my remarks in three parts today. First, I want to lay before this House my view of some of the realities we are facing in Ontario today, realities that must be dealt with, realities we can no longer shove to the back burner and hope they will go away, realities that will shape the life he has and the lives the members have and the lives our children have.

Given the government's predisposition for rationalization, explanation and running away from realities, I believe the impact of these factors is going to be far more severe in the future because we have neglected to face up to them realistically. Perhaps that is the problem of an entrenched government which on one hand presumably is supposed to look forward and which on the other hand has to rationalize the past, the many mistakes that have been made.

We need not only an understanding of the realities of the present but a clear break with the past, in the sense that it does not serve us well we do not have to explain or rationalize any more. In my view we will see, as we go through those issues, we have a number of great opportunities if



we first attempt the problem of at least defining some of those forces that are shaping our society at the present time.

In the second part of my remarks I will deal with our agenda—not the old ideas, but our agenda in the Ontario Liberal Party—of what we have to do to realize the great promise and future that can be ours if we direct our minds to that end.

The third thing I want to address is the management of the present system; the accountability of the present system.

Let me start with the first part, if I may. I am proud to be a legislator in this House. I am very proud to be the leader of our party, and I am proud to be one who is, I hope, making a constructive input into the public policy process in this province.

Each legislator in this House has unique special responsibilities. The background of each one of us is different and I am proud, in the leadership of this party, to coalesce the great, different sensitivities and thoughts that so many of my members bring, the different backgrounds, all concerted towards moving the public policy in a direction that we think, collectively, is instructive.

There is not a pessimist in the group. There is not one person here who does not think we can do better. We all believe in the capacity of individuals and political parties to change the course of history, and we are dedicated to that end, being a reform party, as we are.

Let me deal briefly with some of the realities that I think either the government does not understand or is not prepared to articulate, not prepared to define, so that we can start on the reconstruction process.

We are going through a profound industrial restructuring in this province and it has been going on for a decade at the very least. If one were looking for signposts in the course of history, I would say one would have to look to the oil embargo—on October 15, 1973, as I recall—that profoundly changed the way the western world had been doing business and will do business in the future.

So many of us, confronting some of the structural changes and not really wanting to deal with them fundamentally, were much more prone to dismiss those changes as aberrations of a cyclical downturn. We said: "It is going to come back. Everything in the future will be as it was in the past, if we can only get out of this abhorrent recession. So wait for the recovery. Wait for the feds. Wait for the western world. Wait for

Ronald Reagan. It will all come back the way it was."

It is my view that it will never come back the way it was. If we take Ontario's traditional sources of wealth, such as our great manufacturing industry, even now those are in the process of declining in relative importance, in terms of wealth creation and in terms of employment, than they were in the past.

The great automotive industry, which I respect and very much want to keep in this province, will probably in the future never employ as many as it did in the past and provide that one job in five, as it did.

**3:40 p.m.**

The steel industry, a world-class competitive industry, is in the midst of great transition. The whole nature of the steel business around the world is changing, and it is incumbent upon us to recognize that reality.

In the forestry industry and in the pulp and paper industry, I believe that because of the neglect of the past, northern Ontario is threatened in fundamental ways it has not been in the past. As we look ahead to the fierce competition from other faster-growing areas in the world, we run the risk in this province of seeing a northern Ontario which, 20 to 30 years from now, will be dramatically different in shape and in function from what it was in the past.

We are going through so many technological revolutions as we move from steel to plastics, from mechanics to electronics—the list goes on and on. We are being industrially restructured right under our feet. On the one hand, the whole thrust of industry is to invest in capital equipment to lay people off. On the other hand, the whole thrust of public policy is to employ people. At the present time, we have two of the great forces in society running in dramatically opposite directions.

I think those two different trends are compatible with a different view of our responsibilities in government. However, if the government does not believe my premises, let us say that even in the midst of this industrial restructuring, one of the unfortunate offshoots at the present time is massive unemployment—unemployment heretofore un contemplated in the history of this country. If 10 years ago one had talked to any politician about 10, 11 or 12 per cent structural unemployment, he or she would have laughed and said no government could survive it or it would just never happen. Yet here we are dealing with those realities in a way we have never had to deal with them before.



Either we can look to the traditional sources of wealth creation and job creation in our province, or we can look for some of the new and magic opportunities that the changing technologies present for us.

It has become the role of government to deal with that massive unemployment. At a variety of meetings, I know the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) has sat down with businessmen and said: "Pretend you are the treasurer for the day. What would you do? Shall I throw money at it; shall I not throw money at it?" In one meeting he said: "I have lots of money, so I can throw it at it, but shall I?" He is dealing with these problems in a way that I do not believe is relevant to the major task at hand, which is going to be new thrusts in our educational areas.

Even the brightest optimist looking at this huge pool of unemployment—500,000 unemployed, 163,000 of those being young people, many of them out of work for half a year, a year or even two years, and statistics running at 20, 25 and 30 per cent for a two-year period in certain areas of Ontario—would see that we have a problem of giving up on that or addressing it in significant and profound ways in this province. But that problem has not had the attention it should have had from this government.

Another profound fact is affecting our society. We have an ageing population, which is putting major new pressures on not only our pension funds but our health care system as well. That reality is going to change dramatically the way we fund our system, the way our system produces revenue, as we have fewer people producing real wealth so they can be taxed and more people on the receiving end of those pensions.

Perhaps, for the enlightenment of the government, I should go just a little into the way in which Ontario has abused its pension funds.

We now have a total debt in this province of \$17 billion to \$18 billion. The vast majority of that, almost all of it, has been borrowed from internally generated captive pension plans paying, on average, below-market rates. Unless we go into a massive increase in contribution rates, or unless we restructure those programs in new ways, those funds will be bankrupt by the year 2003. Any way we restructure them is going to require a massive intergenerational transfer of wealth.

John White, one of the great Treasurers of this province—I use that term loosely—believed that every pension fund dollar available to him was his to spend and he did not have to pay it back.

That is the premise upon which he was one of the architects of the financial system in this province. Right now we owe those pension plans \$17 billion to \$18 billion. In 1986 or 1987 we will reach the first crossover point, where we are going to have to start drawing down interest on the Canada pension plan; in the year 1991, we will start drawing down capital in the Canada pension plan, and it will be bankrupt by the year 2003 at present contribution rates.

It is not easy to talk about enhancing the Canada pension plan, or any other plan, before we deal with the problem of financing the one we have. What are we going to do? Are we going to increase contribution rates? Are we going to ask one generation to pay for another? Are we going to cancel that great debt? The Treasurer is confronted with that dilemma and is now talking about writing off that debt. For all intents and purposes, those who contributed will never see their own funds returned. They are looking to other generations to pay them.

If that kind of swindle or fraud happened in private enterprise, it would be very clear who the perpetrators would be. It is interesting that governments can do a \$10-billion intergenerational heist and get away with it, the only excuse being, "What are the choices?" or "What else can we do?"

When we carefully analyse the financial management of this province in the 1970s, as well as in the late 1960s and the early 1980s, we see that those people frequently had access to and their hands on great pools of capital, and they chose to invest that, not to get a real rate of return back to the province but to get maximum political return.

It is the old story that in politics, the future is always the next election; the next decade and the next generation do not tend to matter so much. That is clearly the way this government has managed. They have been quite prepared to borrow from anybody in the future to serve the political purposes of the time and the day, because none of them will be here.

One of the great realities of this province, indeed of Canada and the western world, is that these huge debt levels have encumbered our options and our ability to move, even in the face of probably the greatest social and economic problems we have ever faced. We have fewer options than we had in the 1960s and the 1970s because of the squandering and some of the ill judgements of the past.

That is one of the realities under which we all have to live. You cannot cheat reality; ulti-



mately, someone must pay. You can defer reality. You can shove it ahead a little bit. You can make your kids pick up your messes or your debts, but you can never cheat. You will find that either in a lower dollar or higher inflation, some way or other the chickens always come home to roost. This government's contribution to those problems is as significant as those of most other governments we are talking about at the present time.

Frankly, I do not expect the New Democratic Party to understand this. I really do not. That is one of the reasons they have the problems they have at present.

**Mr. McClellan:** We have said it a thousand times. We understand too well. You are saying the same thing we said four years ago.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The Leader of the Opposition has the floor.

**Mr. Peterson:** A decade or so ago, when things seemed to be going relatively well for Ontario and Canada, I believe the leaders of the day chose to take the easy way out rather than make some of the investments they should have made at the time.

We know about our dismal record of research and development in this province and in this country. In 1968 we were spending 1.4 per cent of our gross national product on research and development. Today, it is 0.9 per cent. When other countries recognized the reality that they had to dig in and invest in the future rather than leave their economies in a state like ours, where some 80 per cent of the technology we use is imported from across our borders, they dug in to get their share of the international pie.

Today we have a problem resulting from lack of investment in that area, and we are going to lose out further to our trading partners. One of the things we have to realize is that we are facing ruthless competition from our trading partners, particularly because of the changes in the tariffs which significantly affect the manufacturing base in Ontario. If we do not have some proprietary products, proprietary technology and proprietary brains, we are not going to be able to compete with other people who are impressed with the realities of ruthless international competition.

3:50 p.m.

Before I got into politics, I used to work for a living and I travelled a great deal. I travelled a great deal in the Orient. I am not suggesting those models are transportable, but I will say there are a number of lessons there that are very important to

the way we organize our industrial society here. They keep their industry in a constant state of transition. They are planning now for the day when they will never build another automobile on Japanese soil.

With great respect, the government is absolutely wrong again. It has been so wrong in the House the past few days, it is not credible on very much when it comes to facts.

In the face of a ruthlessly competitive economy, Japan has developed industrial aims and goals on a consensual basis involving its great institutions and corporations as well as management, labour and government. They have been able to work together to keep that country, which has very little besides human ingenuity and brains, in the forefront of technological and industrial change in this world and to provide not a bad standard of living for its people. They learned some of those lessons facing up to the realities they had to face.

Perhaps in this country we had too much, too easily. There are very few jurisdictions in the world that have been so blessed with natural resources, beauty, scenery, access to market, a stable history and all those things. Perhaps we took the easy way out of some of those situations, not recognizing those changes that started in the world 10 years ago.

Many of the aggravated problems in unemployment, social problems and trade problems we are talking about today and are experiencing were, I believe, predictable. This is not the first time I have spoken about some of these things.

I do not want to be a prophet of doom, because I believe we have a great future, but achieving it is going to take a different attitude, a different direction, different leadership and different management in the future from what we have had in the past.

Look at the grim realities. Our productivity levels are among some of the worst in the western world; there was negative productivity growth last year. Look at our contribution to research and development on a relative basis; we are fighting it out for 16th place with Turkey, of all the countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Those are realities.

Look at the erosion of some of our physical infrastructure. For example, a very high percentage of roads in this province is now below the provincial standards because we have decided to defer those expenditures to someone in the future. What is our choice? We either repair



those roads in the future or do not have them at some time or other.

The government has deferred every cost that was deferable, not recognizing that in the future the price is going to be very much higher than it was when the government should have made the original expenditure. It is the case with research and development, with education, with roads and with a whole bunch of other things in this province.

The same is true of environmental questions. The piper has to be paid; there is no escape in economic terms or in any other terms. The question is, do we do it now or do we allow the problem to compound itself and become more expensive and solve it later? Those are the issues, as I see them, unless the government is content—and I do not expect it would be—to see further environmental degradation and neglect and to defer those problems in perpetuity to our children. But the cost of not cleaning up is far more significant than the cost of cleaning up in broad terms. That is another reality of this province.

I will not deal with this at any more length now, but I do believe some of those fundamental truths have not been understood by this government. If they have been understood, the government has not been in a position to mobilize the public will or to organize its own policies to try to combat those problems. Perhaps the reason is that anything positive it did in the future would be denial of its policies of the past.

We do not need the old ideas; we need a new agenda for this province. I want to talk about our agenda. Specifically, I want to talk about what we would do. We have never shrunk from our responsibilities to put forward, in clear and concise terms, exactly where we stood on the issues of the day and what we would do.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** This is Monday's policy.

**Mr. Peterson:** What is bothering the Minister of Northern Affairs? We put them forward in clear and concise ways, I remind the minister; perhaps he has not read them or has not been in the House often enough to hear about them.

Unlike his federal leader, who hides in the weeds and criticizes, and no one knows where he stands, I take a very different view of my responsibilities as leader of Her Majesty's Opposition. For years we have been putting forward constructive programs.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** You cannot sell that. Even your own colleagues are smiling.

**Mr. Peterson:** Do the members hear the Premier's response? "You cannot sell that." He

does not care. That summarizes everything about this Premier: "You cannot sell that." He does not care about the worth of the product; he only cares about its saleability. That represents his regime and his government. He does not care about the steak; he only cares about the sizzle. He has Dalton Camp, Norman Atkins and Hugh Segal to manufacture the sizzle for him, which he thinks he can sell, the "keep the promise," all the razzle dazzle and "Davis can do it."

Whether or not the Premier knows it, his kind of politics is running out of gas, not only here but also right across this country. He and his party colleagues should try taking another \$40 million or \$60 million out of the public purse to advertise what good people they are prior to the next election. They will try it.

I want to talk about what we would do and where we would start. There is no doubt that number one on our new agenda is the question of education, skills training, unemployment, university training, apprenticeship and vocational training. They are all related. By almost any standard one wants to use—and we have employed the figures in the House many times; contribution to skills training, per capita transfers to universities, name it—we have one of the worst records in the country.

It has been neglected by this government for what reason? Perhaps they thought they could turn the thumbscrews with impunity. It is another way of cheating the future, because we have a situation today where 163,000 of our young people are unemployed. At the same time, according to the last report of the Ontario Manpower Commission—and he will not make public the most recent report probably because it is more embarrassing—we will go wanting for some 48,000 skilled workers by the year 1985, a year from now, and some 28,000 semi-skilled workers.

I have travelled this province widely. In Windsor they told me they need 600 tool and die makers this year. In Sudbury, in the face of massive unemployment—some 14,000 or so, as I recall the figure, and I could be wrong—they need platemakers. Everywhere in this province there is a demand for skilled people and semi-skilled people who have not come out of our educational system because of the failure of our policies here.

That is not something you can say is Mr. Trudeau's fault, the federal Liberals' fault or anyone else's fault. It is clearly the responsibility of this government in this province. There is a classic mismatch between the results of our



educational institutions and the demands of the marketplace.

I have talked to industrialists across this province who are not happy with the skills that people are provided with when they come to them. Industrialists are now forced to set up their own skills training, to train people in their own skills, because they are not happy with what the Premier's system is doing.

I see the current Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) attempting to dismantle the system of education this Premier created when he was Minister of Education. She still does not know what she is going to do with it, but now with Ontario Schools, Intermediate and Senior Divisions, province-wide examinations and a variety of other things, she is trying to rectify the experiment this man did with the children of the 1970s and early 1980s.

**4 p.m.**

The reality is that the experiment failed. The question now is, what kind of recompense are we going to offer those results of his experiment? We have a school system where roughly 50 per cent go into the marketplace with absolutely no specialized skills whatsoever, no vocational training and no university training.

I have the figures in front of me and I will share them with the members: 11.4 per cent of our young people graduate from universities, 7.7 per cent graduate from the community colleges and 2.5 per cent graduate from apprenticeships. That compares with the 5.6 per cent who drop out of universities, the 6.3 per cent who drop out of community colleges and the 3.7 per cent who drop out of apprenticeships.

Fifty per cent of our young people have absolutely no specialized skills whatsoever. If members agree with one of my original premises that this world is changing profoundly, that the kinds of skills that will be necessary in order to compete in the future are dramatically different from those of the past, then very clearly the issue is education and making it relevant to our changing society. This government has failed in every respect in meeting those challenges.

That is our priority. We have put forward our program in very specific ways. Members will recall that shortly after I was elected leader of this party, I asked my colleague the member for Kitchener-Wilmot (Mr. Sweeney), a noted educator, to chair a task force on job opportunities for young people, because it was clearly identified as an item of priority for us. He put forward a thoughtful report, which is still a model and is something of which I am very proud.

We have put forward in very specific ways programs and ideas, which we have costed, that would employ thousands of our young people by using our government institutions instead of letting these people sit on welfare, on unemployment insurance or in idleness. These are programs that would give them a real work opportunity as well as counselling and upgrading. Is it not a tragedy in Ontario in 1984 that so many of those young people need help just in simple literacy? That is a commentary on the system.

We would use public funds to employ those young people to avoid the hoop the Premier talks about, the catch-22 situation where, on the one hand, they do not have any training and, on the other hand, they do not have any experience. We would give them experience and training so they would have something on their résumés that they could go out and be proud of and take around to prospective employers. It is not a perfect program, but it is a hell of a lot better than nothing, and that is what we stand for.

We have put forward in very specific ways skills training ideas that would be responsive in the short term to some of the problems we have in this province, meeting some of the customized training needs that are so necessary and using the existing institutions to try to respond to that immediate shortfall between the needs of the marketplace and the results of our educational institutions.

We are trying to be constructive. All the ministry officials have our documents. It is interesting to note how some of our documents and our research are being circulated through the various ministries, which want to know how we feel about these issues and how we would handle the problems. I am delighted as the leader of Her Majesty's loyal opposition to share that information and those ideas with the government. I commend them to the government and I say, "Steal them."

I was heartened, I must admit to the Premier, that in his great speech a month or so ago at the Empire Club he admitted for the first time that there is a massive problem of youth unemployment in this province. It created great expectations for me and for many people, but his feeble response was an insult to everyone who cares about this issue.

This is no longer a lower-class issue; this is no longer just a remote issue in most people's lives; this is a real issue in most people's lives in Ontario. There is not anyone who does not know people who are individually affected by it. There is not one member in this House, regardless of



party, I will venture to say, for whom half the people who come to see him in his constituency office when they make appointments do not ask: "Can you help me get a job? Can you give me a reference? Can you do anything? Where can I go?"

Am I wrong? I would be surprised if any member of this House has had a different experience. There is desperation on their faces, the desperation of young men with 200 letters of rejection all neatly organized. I ask any one of the members how long he would have to pound the pavement, knock on doors and be rejected time after time, not because he is a bad fellow but because there is no opportunity, before he lost his confidence, questioned his self-worth and perhaps said: "This system does not have much for me. I have to look at other alternatives."

If we cannot provide a system that opens the door to economic opportunity for these young people to participate, to get a reward for risks taken or recompense for effort expended, if we exclude 20, 30 or 40 per cent of our young people from those opportunities, then I believe—and I am not being overly dramatic—the very underpinnings of our society are going to be threatened.

That is the great challenge for us. It is not only an economic challenge but a human, social and ethical challenge as well. Believing as we do that human beings are the greatest asset in any jurisdiction, be it Japan or Ontario, we would start our recovery process with people. We would start with job programs in the public and private sector. We would start with educational programs and we would rebuild excellence in education in Ontario.

I would not be proud of the fact that in this province we have the worst record in university funding. There is not one thoughtful observer of our university scene today who is happy with its quality. Granted that quality is tough to measure, granted that we are not able to put it on a computer, granted that it is not easy to compare these things, although we can in statistical terms, there is not one objective observer I know who thinks the quality in the system is what it used to be or the quality is as good as it could be with sensitive government policy.

Now we are shortchanging the future. The last place we should cut back on is human resources, and that is a priority for us. As my colleague the deputy leader and others have discussed at many different times and on many different occasions, that is where we would start in the recovery.

Members opposite will hear much more from us on this subject in the months and years to come.

I want to speak briefly about another issue of great concern to members of my caucus, that is, the agriculture issue. My colleague, that eloquent spokesman, the member for Huron-Middlesex (Mr. Riddell), had a discussion about this with the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch) today. I want to draw to this government's attention that the face of rural Ontario is changing. If members opposite thoroughly understood it, I do not think they would like what is happening. It is largely a function of the tough times on which the agricultural community has fallen, not only in the last year but in the last several years.

There has been a conspiracy of forces that is changing rural Ontario, the sociology and the way people live. Lest we want to see that change, we need remedial programs now. We have specifically—

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I still have farmers in my riding.

**Mr. Peterson:** Just because the Premier has farmers in his riding—his farmers are all developers. He is selling off all that stuff in his riding. That is what he is doing.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** If the member says that to Tom Jackson he will be in trouble.

**Mr. Peterson:** Whoever Tom Jackson is—

**Mr. Riddell:** Tom Jackson told you people what he thought at the Ontario Cattlemen's Association convention not too long ago.

**Mr. Peterson:** It is interesting that the greatest encroachment on farm land in the province at present is in the Premier's riding. That speaks in some small way to the personal commitment.

**4:10 p.m.**

Let me pursue this point for a moment. We have a hungry world and we know we have the capacity to be net exporters of food, yet we are net importers at present. Our position has been diminishing for a decade at least. We see the agrifarms move in and the family farmers move off because they cannot afford to be there any more. When we see the face of rural Ontario changing, we have a real problem in front of us.

My colleagues and I have put forward in a very specific way an eight-point agricultural strategy we believe would address some of those problems, at least in the short term. We have never shied away from our responsibility to be specific and positive in our responses to these problems.

Unless the members opposite are persuaded there is a problem—I do not know what persuades the members sitting around the cabinet table.



Perhaps it is the polls; perhaps it is pressure from their colleagues; perhaps it is travelling about and talking. I have no idea. Whatever it is that persuades them, I would like to use my voice at least to persuade them we have a disaster in the making.

My colleagues and I sat down a few days ago with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. It is pleading in desperation not only for short-term assistance to keep people on their farms, but for a long-term agricultural strategy as well that would restore agriculture to its rightful place in Ontario. I do not think I am being unkind, and my colleague will correct me if I am wrong, in saying they feel neglected, abused and shortchanged. They feel the very quality of life in Ontario is being threatened as a result of that neglect.

I have appointed my colleague the member for Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. Eakins), wherever he is—he is probably on the job today—to take a serious look at rural Ontario. We have a task force on rural Ontario that is looking seriously at these problems. We in this party will continue our commitment to the family farm and to the needs of rural Ontario.

I want to deal with a number of other issues. I recognize time is running on. I want to tell the House about another commitment the Ontario Liberal Party has.

Ontario is changing face rapidly and dramatically in terms of the ethnocultural makeup of this great province. I know some of the individual ministers are sensitive to what I am talking about. I know many of these communities feel totally alienated from the political process. It is our responsibility, individually and collectively, to bring more and more people from the ethnocultural communities into the governmental process and to make multiculturalism not just the subject of speeches but a living political fact in this province. This should not be just at an elective level, although that is important, but in the power structure, the bureaucracy and the boards, agencies and commissions that control this great province.

Our party is pledged to restoring a real balance, to elevating and changing the way this province is governed so all those special sensitivities are reflected in the decision-making process.

It is impossible for us really to understand what it might be like to be an unemployed black person in this province and to go through some of the special kinds of discrimination they go through. Those sensitivities can be reflected if a member of the black community is on the board

that has to deal with the problems that affect their lives.

That is why I profoundly believe we must change the way the power structure runs this province. Those boards, agencies and commissions under our government would not be just repositories of patronage or privilege, but would reflect the face of Ontario in real ways.

I note with some interest the government's road to Damascus conversion with respect to women's issues in this province, with the appointment of a senior minister who is known as probably the greatest skater of them all. I noted the great reluctance, and I do not know many years I fought here—five or six years—to change the child-rearing dropout provision, which is really a very modest change and minimum cost, if members want to know the reality.

For how many years did we have to bring resolutions and debates forward to try to persuade this government to move? How many debates and resolutions, discussions and questions did we have with respect to single pensioners to get changes with respect to the guaranteed annual income system provision? Why does it always take so long? In the face of an obvious injustice and constant badgering from the opposition, it seems to me we do not have to be last in response. We were last in response, with British Columbia, in terms of the child-rearing dropout provision. Why can we not be first just once in rectifying some of these injustices of the past?

My colleagues and I will continue to press forward with the initiatives of my colleague the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps) with respect to equal pay for work of equal value. That will become a reality in this province some day. The only question is when. Why are we always the last?

We will continue in our push to ban violent and pornographic material in this province. When we had discussions some months ago, the Premier pooh-poohed our suggestions, the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (Mr. Elgie) pooh-poohed our suggestions, and the New Democratic Party had no idea of what to do on the subject. Finally, in the throne speech, the government has announced it is moving towards our policy, but again that is very unclear.

I asked the minister. The minister is the most famous—

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Welcome aboard.

**Mr. Peterson:** Let the minister never welcome me on any of his boards because his boards



are so ineptly run I do not want anything to do with them. But this is the one—

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I have read all the member has said.

**Mr. Peterson:** Let the minister go back and read Hansard. He would be embarrassed because, when we came forward, we said, "Here is where we stand and here is what we would do specifically." The minister and his colleagues said, "We will not do anything about it." Now they come our way, and I am glad about that. I do not expect them to recognize whose policy is whose.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** This year's policy and last year's policy.

**Mr. Peterson:** Perhaps they are following their pollsters. I do not expect the minister to stand up in this House and say: "Yes, the opposition had a good idea and we are going to follow them. Thank you for your good contribution."

**Mr. Nixon:** They are not big enough for that.

**Mr. Peterson:** I do not expect him to stand in his place and be a big man.

As I say, we will continue that fight and we will monitor that, although I know there has been some equivocation already on those promises brought forward in the throne speech.

We are going to continue with our thrust in health care, as we see erosion of the principle of universal access. We will continue to oppose opting out, but I want to say I do not believe that is the single biggest problem facing health care in the province today.

We have a problem of chronic underfunding, we have a problem of chronic care beds and we have to the need to address new and innovative approaches to the treatment of our elderly and our sick. We have to form new options for living. We have to build home care programs that assist these people so they are not institutionalized. As members know, in Ontario we have one of the highest rates of institutionalization in the entire world. There is much room for more humane, sensitive and individualistic approaches to the treatment of our institutionalized, particularly our sick and our elderly.

In the next few months members will be hearing much more from us with our specific, positive alternatives to the existing system, but surely our seniors deserve to have their independence respected. Public policies should be developed to encourage independence and not dependence, as the system now does.

**4:20 p.m.**

At the weekend I heard someone discussing a doctor who was reported to me to have been involved in shunting one of our senior citizens back and forth between a hospital and an old age home four times because there was not a hospital bed for that lady, who needed it at the time. This is the biggest crisis in our health care system today.

In order to have universal access, we must have hospital beds and proper treatment. When one looks at the lists for elective surgery going on six, eight, 10 months; when one looks at the time required; when one looks at the way the lists are handled; when doctors are saying that people are seriously ill and perhaps dying because the beds are not available, then in the face of this overwhelming evidence I do not believe we can neglect this problem any more.

It is a problem that must be addressed by this government. It will not be addressed if they say only, "It is the best system in the world," or "We cannot do any better," or if they feel they have to defend the past. We are going to have to be very innovative and forward looking to solve the problems of the ageing population.

I talked earlier about industrial restructuring. The words "industrial policy," "economic strategy" "industrial strategy" are very emotive to some people; they think it means interfering with the marketplace, picking winners and losers, deciding who is going to survive and who is not.

I do not see it in those crude terms; I see it in terms of survival. I see that the dialogue among labour, government and management must go on in a far more thoughtful way in the future than it has in the past and it is going to take some new kinds of voices in the process.

The Premier is going to have a great conference in two or three months. I want members to know that I was at another conference he had when he was under similar pressure three or four years ago. I remember that the member for Beaches-Woodbine (Ms. Bryden) was there when she was the finance critic for the New Democratic Party, and some of the others were there.

We sat down and got a good dose of the Premier's humour. All the cameras were there, a conference was held and the net results were zilch, because what we have is a government pledged to govern by way of conferences, meetings, task forces, committee hearings—

**Mr. Bradley:** Gallup polls.

**Mr. Peterson:** —Gallup polls and public relations, as opposed to dealing in substantive ways with the issue.



Oh, I know that some of those painful discussions that go on with management and labour and the agonizing behind closed doors may be difficult and may tax one's patience, and I know there may not be any cameras or media there. But that is the way it is going to happen; it is not going to happen in one and a half days in front of the lights at the Harbour Castle Hilton.

Unless we understand the difference between substance and public relations, unless we understand the difference between progress and hokum, we are going to go on denying the existence of those real problems in Ontario. We believe it can be better, and that is why we are here in Her Majesty's loyal opposition.

Unaligned as we are—and I am proud of it—with the organized union bosses on the one hand or the Bay Street barons on the other hand, I believe what this world needs are moderate voices, voices that are prepared to build a consensus and that are beholden to no organization or individual.

That is one of the reasons my friend the leader of the New Democratic Party is having so many problems today. My sympathies are with him, because from time to time we all have problems—

**Mr. Bradley:** But nothing like his.

**Mr. Peterson:** —but nothing quite as severe as his, as the member has said. Unless we get to the stage where we are prepared to represent all of society, not just certain sectors, then I believe that not only the base of the political system is threatened but the political party as well, and there is obvious evidence of that at hand right in front of our noses.

I said I wanted to deal with the management of the present system because this is still an important responsibility of Her Majesty's loyal opposition. After all, if we do not call the government to account, who does? The government never stands up and tells itself it made a mistake. There are no shareholders to which they have to account at the annual meeting. I am delighted the Chairman, Management Board of Cabinet (Mr. McCague) is here. If I were him, I would be in my office trying to figure out my job.

I was absolutely astounded at the famous Wasaga Beach convention where he stood up for every good burgher in Wasaga Beach to hear and said he did not know what he was doing in his own portfolio.

Here we have his list of rules, The Manual of Administration, trumpeted before us as being one of the best in the world. It is trumpeted as the best set of rules by which to run government. It is almost like the Minister of Consumer and

Commercial Relations having a good set of rules to run the trust companies. If the members do not believe him, ask his predecessor, the member for London South (Mr. Walker). There was no enforcement, nobody understood the problems and as a result there were huge problems happening right under the government's nose. It is our historic responsibility, our sacred responsibility, to make sure that every nickel of taxpayers' funds is well and properly spent.

This issue of accountability is not just a series of contracts. It is how the government uses its ingenuity to cheat its own system, such as splitting up contracts, describing something as a proprietary product that is not a proprietary product, running contracts untendered year after year. It is just the tip of the iceberg. There are many more.

The Premier stood in this House the other day and said there are 29,000 daily transactions or contracts of his government. We checked with Management Board and it had no idea where he got the figure. It thinks it was made up out of thin air and said there were nowhere near that number of contracts. Again, the Premier is wrong in his facts. But, very clearly, there is no will, let alone understanding, to enforce the present rules.

We find that a remarkable confession by the Chairman, Management Board of Cabinet when he virtually said he did not know what he was doing and is now spending \$290,000 to hire a consultant to tell him his job. Either the government abolishes the job or it should get someone who is prepared to enforce the rules of the government. They are not my party's rules; they are this government's rules. This pattern has revealed a promiscuity in this government that in my view is completely unacceptable.

That same accountability runs through Ontario Hydro. We have been very specific in this House about how we would bring Ontario Hydro back into a system of accountability to this House.

If one contemplates in its internal reports the spectre that it is now going to borrow \$64 billion over the next 20 years, then I am sure the former minister would agree with me. When one reads Hydro's own internal reports where it says the financial security of that institution is going to be threatened, and if the Treasurer knows the financial security of that institution bears directly and immediately on the financial integrity of this province, then this is a problem for public discussion. It is completely denied to this House. The minister either comes in and pleads ignorance or pleads it is not his responsibility. There is no way



to have a meaningful and ongoing dialogue with those who run Ontario Hydro.

Such huge mistakes have been made at the top level. I do not have any quarrel with the technical competence of Ontario Hydro and/or its staff. That is not the issue. It is the decision makers. It is those people who have made the critical decisions that affect our utility, our province and our future that were so wrong and whose decisions we have to change. That comes under the umbrella of accountability.

It is the same way the great Suncor purchase comes under the issue of accountability. When I look across this House, I do not see too many defenders of Suncor here.

**4:30 p.m.**

I suspect that in even their own ridings they are terribly embarrassed about it, but I do not blame those members for being embarrassed because they did not know about it. Even the member for Oxford (Mr. Treleaven) was embarrassed about, it, as I recall the press clippings of some time ago.

Here we had a government, a Treasurer dragged kicking and screaming at the time into the decision, the chairman of the Ontario Energy Corp., Malcolm Rowan, and perhaps one or two others, making this decision to spend \$650 million of taxpayers' funds when we were so strapped in every single area. It has netted us nothing.

You will recall, Mr. Speaker, and I will bring it to the attention of the honourable members because I know they would like to use it in their constituency reports, the government paid \$50.03 a share.

**Interjection.**

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Cousens):** The member for Lakeshore (Mr. Kolyn) is not in his own seat and must stop making comments.

**Mr. Peterson:** I paid \$15 a share for the same class of shares. There is a net unrealized loss on those shares of \$455 million.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** Which friend did you buy them from?

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, my sleazy friend the member for Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg) is trying to accuse me of the same thing the Premier did. I bought those shares from a broker, as the member could buy them from a broker if he wanted to.

He is accusing me, presumably, of something that is patently untrue. I have no idea who the owner of those shares was before I bought them. I

put in an order with a broker. I bought them across the counter and now I am the happy owner. Just last week I got another \$2 dividend cheque from Suncor.

Look at the size of the unrealized loss. Look at the size of the interest payments. We have already established that the taxpayers of this province are some \$130 million net out of pocket after a year and a half, net after increase in equity, net after dividends, to carry that expenditure. It has brought no oil and no jobs to Ontario.

Look at the dangers of having a system with no accountability. Who in this House was prepared to stand up—perhaps they did in caucus, but not publicly—and say, “The Premier made a terrible mistake”?

I will bet you one thing, Mr. Speaker—because I suspect there is going to be a succession fairly soon over there—the next leader will very clearly stand up and cut bait with that decision of the past because it is so wrong, particularly when our resources are so scarce.

The same thing goes on to justify the past with Minaki Lodge, a \$550,000 loan turned bad. In fairness, governments do make mistakes on loans. I understand that. In private enterprise, people would cut their losses. They would say: “We are sorry. We made a mistake.” They would not go on and spend \$45 million trying to justify the past.

That characterizes this government. It will spend any amount of money, including on Ontario Hydro, to justify the past, to justify a mistake, rather than channelling scarce resources into things that would build productively for the future. The past has so crippled its capacity to move in the future, given the absence of any vision, that it is no wonder this government is becoming increasingly fossilized.

We have had a series of regulatory failures, be it the trust companies affair—where there still has not been a charge—the grain elevators, travel companies, real estate companies falling, regulated companies in which the consumer has a direct interest. All of them have lost because the watchdogs of this government are asleep at the switch. Who is to ask for that accountability? Whose responsibility is that? That is our responsibility and we will continue to put that forward.

Government members have developed such a closed mentality they think they have a divine right to govern. They think the information they have is their information rather than the taxpayers' or the citizens' information. Why else reject, year after year, with flimsy promises, freedom of information legislation?



It seems to me that when they aspire to govern they start with certain premises about their relationship with the people who elect them. Are the people working for the government, or is the government working for the people? It is public information they are suppressing, not the government's information. The people have a right to know everything, except in extreme circumstances. They are paying for it, not the government.

I believe we are elected to serve the people and we can serve them better if they have full information on which to judge us. They are not here to be manipulated; they are here to be served. This government takes the view that secret information it will not share will be used to manipulate the masses. Why else would they not answer our order paper questions?

The government House leader (Mr. Wells) is here, and I say to him that hundreds of order paper questions are going unanswered because his government refuses to share that information even with the members of the House, who have a right.

This is the attitude of a government that believes it has some historic right to govern. It has been around so long it has lost its sensitivity and is not even embarrassed any more by the politics of privilege or by the politics of patronage.

Unless I am wrong—and I may be, because I have been wrong on other occasions; I humbly admit it—there is a change coming about in this province. The political winds are changing slowly, sometimes a little slower than I would like. The people in this province are looking for a credible, positive alternative in this province.

Two years ago, we took the view that we were going to build the depth and the breadth of our party, as we have been doing. There are many groups that come to us today and say: "It is time for a change. We do not need people who simply justify the past all the time. There are too many serious problems we have to face. We no longer need the politics of privilege and patronage just favouring the friends of the government. We need a stiff broom brought to bear at Queen's Park." My colleagues and I are prepared now to fulfil that sacred responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, for all those reasons and many more I do not have time to enumerate, I will close by proposing an amendment to the throne speech motion.

**The Acting Speaker:** Mr. Peterson moves, seconded by Mr. Conway, that the motion for an address in reply to the speech from the throne be amended by adding the following words:

"This House, however, regrets that the speech from the throne fails to recognize and adequately respond to the fundamental changes in Ontario society and the problems currently facing it, and condemns the government for the following:

"A total lack of government initiative and leadership and policy necessary to vigorously attack the concerns of youth unemployment in Ontario;

"Continuing a dismal, decade-long policy of neglect in the areas of education and of skills training as a means of providing jobs for today and tomorrow;

"Permitting the erosion of universal access to quality health care, post-secondary education and public housing as a result of ongoing provincial underfunding of these systems;

"Failing to enact legislation guaranteeing equal pay for work of equal value, and failing to provide an overall day care strategy for Ontario;

"Responding too slowly to the urgent needs of Ontario's pensioners and for the lack of appropriate care in administering the pension funds of this province;

"Pursuing a shameful policy of ignoring the continuing crisis in the agricultural community, preferring to study the problem rather than take any direct initiative;

"Failing to make Ontario Hydro adequately accountable for its actions and decisions;

"Ignoring on a routine and regular basis its own rules to safeguard the administration of public funds;

"Allowing the ongoing deterioration in the capital infrastructure of this province, including roads;

"Failing to adequately protect the public interest in monitoring the affairs of provincially regulated companies and not ensuring adequate and equitable compensation for people affected as a result of the government's regulatory failures;

"The continuing neglect of the needs of northern Ontario, particularly the failure to provide adequate education and health care services and to safeguard adequately our natural resources, in particular, our forests;

"Ignoring the legitimate aspirations of Ontario's multicultural communities to participate in the decision-making process.

"Therefore, this House declares its total lack of confidence in this government."

**4:40 p.m.**

On motion by Mr. McClellan, the debate was adjourned.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: My colleague tells me I referred to the member for Wilson Heights as sleazy in a flight of rhetoric. I apologize for that and I withdraw it.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I remind the members that we will continue with the debate on the reply to the speech from the throne tomorrow

afternoon. The lead-off speaker will be the leader of the New Democratic Party followed, if time permits, by other members until six o'clock. In the evening, we will deal with the motion for interim supply.

The House adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

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No. 5

# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

**Tuesday, March 27, 1984**

**Afternoon Sitting**

**Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner**

**Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC**



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Tuesday, March 27, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**Mr. Breagh:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: On Thursday last, the member for Simcoe East (Mr. McLean) stood in his place and read a report from the standing committee on general government reporting one bill, Bill 142, An Act respecting the City of Barrie and the Township of Vespra.

It has occurred to me that this Legislature has not had its formal motion striking committees in this term. While I am aware that there was a motion put at the end of the previous session to allow the bill to go out for hearings and to be reported back, it seems to me it causes an air of awkwardness for a member to stand in his place and report from a committee that has not yet been struck by the Legislature.

I would like you to take under consideration whether it is proper for a member to stand and present the report from a committee when this session of the Legislature has not yet struck that committee. Perhaps you would think upon that and give us a ruling on that matter.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I might just indicate that my friend seems to be needlessly nitpicking in a situation where he knows it was fully agreed that certain bills would be sent out to committee for study during the winter break and those bills would be reported back to this Legislature on instruction of the committees that had duly, legally been constituted by this Legislature and that report could be made in here.

He is nitpicking if he suggests it was wrong for that report to be presented to this Legislature. There was one other report on a very similar situation, concerning three bills of the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry), which was received here yesterday by this Legislature and caused those bills to be placed here.

The only thing that may be wrong is that there may have to be a slight change in wording; but to suggest that somehow somebody had done something that is not correct and that was not agreed to by his party would be completely

against the facts, and I think the House should realize that.

We set up a procedure that would allow those bills to be studied and reported back here. If the member wants the House leaders to look at it, we will look at it to make sure the wording is correct. I think my friend is trying some more delaying tactics on a bill he does not like.

## MEMBERS' EXPENDITURES

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: I would like to correct the record. It involves information being decimated from this office. I should not say "decimated"—it is disseminated.

**Mr. Conway:** It is probably the truth.

**Mr. Roy:** Yes, I think I used the right word on the first occasion, because the information comes from the office of the member for Ottawa South (Mr. Bennett). Information is being given to residents of Ottawa comparing the travel and accommodation expenses of four different members: the member for Ottawa West (Mr. Baetz), the member for Ottawa South, my colleague the member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) and myself. The member for Ottawa South is attempting in this particular information to show that his expenses are about half as large as those of anybody else, including those of the member for Ottawa West.

There is no attempt by the member to show that his travelling expenses are hidden in his ministry's budget; there is no attempt to show that his accommodation expenses are going to accumulate capital gains. There is no attempt to do that.

I think the record should be corrected. The information that is being spread around Ottawa by the member for Ottawa South is misleading and inaccurate.

**Mr. Speaker:** Having listened very carefully and very attentively to the alleged point of privilege, I would have to rule that it is not a matter of privilege.

**Mr. Cassidy:** It is a cheap shot, Mr. Speaker. The ministry used public funds to print that stuff.

**Mr. Speaker:** No.



## NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION

**Mr. Speaker:** Before we proceed, I would like to advise all members that, pursuant to standing order 28(a), the member for Parkdale (Mr. Ruprecht) has advised me of his dissatisfaction with the response of the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt) to a question. That will be heard this evening at 10:30.

## COMMISSIONERS OF ESTATE BILLS

**Mr. Speaker:** I further beg to inform the House that the Clerk has received from the commissioners of estate bills their favourable report in the following case:

Bill Pr42, An Act respecting the City of Peterborough.

## ATTENDANCE OF MINISTER

**Mr. Speaker:** I have been asked to inform the honourable members that the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) will in all probability be late in arriving this afternoon. Any remarks pertaining to the death of Chief Justice Laskin will be delayed until he arrives.

## STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY

## NORTHERN ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOLS

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Mr. Speaker, yesterday my colleague the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) tabled her ministry's response to the Allan report on small secondary schools in northern Ontario.

2:10 p.m.

As the members will recall, that report's findings drew attention to the fact that small secondary schools in remote northern Ontario were in some cases disadvantaged by virtue of their distance, lower enrolments and financing capabilities. Specifically, the report stated that "the gap between the programs in the schools in the study and those in larger communities in the north and south is becoming wider."

I am sure the school boards identified in the report welcome the minister's announcement that the Ministry of Education will provide additional funding to address some of the needs of these small, remote secondary schools.

I am pleased to announce today that the Ministry of Northern Affairs will also be providing funds to help small secondary schools acquire improved facilities in the areas of technical and home economics studies, computers, art and music. My ministry will provide 90 per cent of the capital costs of such facilities.

Three million dollars have been allocated for the program over the next three years.

**Mr. Bradley:** You are finally listening to the opposition.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** We are listening to northern Ontario. That is who we are listening to, not the opposition.

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind the interjections, please.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The members and the people from northern Ontario have asked for this and we have responded, as a sensitive government always does.

This program recognizes the importance of improving the quality of education through improved facilities in ensuring the long-term social and economic strength of our remote northern communities. With the Ministry of Education, we are helping to ensure that no secondary student in northern Ontario is disadvantaged in terms of skills training or career goals simply because he or she happens to live in northern, rather than southern, Ontario.

Let me end by acknowledging the support and thoughtful input this program received through the Allan report from the affected school board trustees themselves. Their own aspirations for quality education in the north were well reflected in Rodger Allan's excellent report.

## VISITOR

**Mr. Kerrio:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: I am sure you and the assembly would like to recognize a former member from Niagara Falls, Mr. Arthur Jolley, a colleague of mine in the construction business before either of us went into politics.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

## ADHERENCE TO INFLATION RESTRAINT

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. I am sure he is aware of the cases involving the Sensenbrenner Hospital workers and the Etobicoke Public Library employees who received wage settlements that were deemed to be in excess of the restraint legislation guidelines established by the government opposite. I am sure he is also aware of the ridiculous suggestion made by the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) that the workers of Sensenbrenner forgo their lunch and coffee breaks for a few years as a means of paying back this "overpayment."

Within that context, I wish to draw the minister's attention to the case of Dr. Alan Wolfson, who is at present his assistant deputy



minister. Dr. Wolfson was appointed chairman of the Ontario Manpower Commission in September 1981 under order in council 2692/81. This order established Dr. Wolfson's per diem rate and also set out specific guidelines governing Dr. Wolfson's remuneration.

How is it that Dr. Wolfson can violate the guidelines of this order in council, resulting in an overpayment to him far in excess of that received by the workers of Sensenbrenner, yet no one in the government asks him to repay this money, let alone suggests he give up lunch and coffee breaks? Is this government telling the people of this province there is one set of rules for the workers of Sensenbrenner and Etobicoke and another for highly placed friends of the government?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, it is true that Dr. Alan Wolfson was appointed to the chairmanship of the Ontario Manpower Commission and recently has become an assistant deputy minister within the Ministry of Labour. We feel very privileged to be able to recruit that type of person to our ministry and he has already shown his value to us in many ways.

I was unaware of the circumstances the honourable member has brought forward today, because I was assured at the time of the change in his responsibilities that all of the financial matters had been worked out and had been checked with the appropriate parties. Therefore, I would withhold any further statement until I have had an opportunity to look into the allegations made by the member opposite.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** We have gone through this a number of times. The same thing happened with Dr. Chant under the Ontario Waste Management Corp. It is another example of the members opposite not knowing what is going on.

Can the minister explain, not only to this House but to the people of the province, why it was that when Dr. Wolfson's violations of the order in council were discovered, the government in September 1982—a year later—instead of asking him to pay back the money, simply changed the rules for the assistant deputy by writing a new set of guidelines under order in council 3037/82? That must have gone before the cabinet.

Why can the minister show no flexibility whatsoever with the workers in Sensenbrenner and in Etobicoke, but the cabinet and the minister himself can so easily change the rules for someone working directly for him? What kind of example does the minister think he is setting for the rest of the workers of the province who have

come under the iron heel of the restraint program?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I am not aware that the rules have been changed. It is an allegation by the member. It is something I have promised to look into. At the moment, the member is making a great number of statements that I am not sure are accurate. I am sure he intends them to be accurate, but I would like to have the opportunity to look at the circumstances.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, if there is an iron heel the Liberal Party voted for that iron heel, not once but three times, when it comes to the actions of the Inflation Restraint Board. Three times they were there standing up for that iron heel. Let them not start talking about an iron heel.

The question I have for the minister has to do with the comments that were made by the member with respect to the Sensenbrenner workers. Given the fact that the suggestion of the Treasurer with respect to the payback agreement could be said to be in violation of the Employment Standards Act, has the minister sat down and discussed with the Treasurer the legality of the proposal that he was making for the payback of the Sensenbrenner award?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, the answer is no.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** One thing this Liberal Party has never done is called the workers of Ontario "stupid."

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Question please.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** The better known the leader of the third party becomes, with comments like that, the farther the NDP goes down in the polls.

**Mr. Speaker:** And now for the question please.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** While the minister is looking into this situation—which I would have thought would have come across his desk since the orders in council, as I understood, were passed by the cabinet and brought forward by the minister—I wonder if at the same time he could explain the following.

If Dr. Wolfson was to be paid on a per diem basis, submitting monthly statements as the order in council requires, why were no dates worked by Dr. Wolfson recorded for almost seven months of billing?

Could the minister also explain how Dr. Wolfson could bill the ministry for being in two places at the same time without anyone in the ministry questioning this; i.e. on the Ontario Manpower Commission and the Advisory Coun-



cil on Occupational Health and Occupational Safety?

2:20 p.m.

Could the minister report to the Legislature at the earliest convenience? I hope the minister will put this in the context of what the government is doing to the other workers in the province.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I will be pleased to report to the Legislature because I am confident that all the necessary steps were followed to comply completely with the policies of the government.

I have been in the Ministry of Labour now a little more than two years. I am constantly impressed by the degree of accuracy and determination the staff use in complying with the manual that is provided to us, and I am sure there is a reasonable explanation for this whole matter.

I am glad the member has seen fit to write out his question in complete detail. It will give us an opportunity to answer in a like respect.

#### FOOD LAND GUIDELINES

**Mr. Riddell:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Agriculture and Food regarding the government's lack of commitment to land preservation and the inadequacy of the Ontario food land guidelines.

I might just say I am pleased to see that the minister is healthy and well, as I asked you about last Friday, Mr. Speaker, and that he is back again to participate in the legislative process.

**Mr. Speaker:** And now for the question.

**Mr. Riddell:** My question pertains to the minister's approval of the destruction of 4,000 acres of prime agricultural land in the city of Brampton. The minister will recall that in answer to many questions we have asked him on previous occasions on the rationale for the population forecast to justify this level of urbanization, he stated: "We will be doing that within the food land guidelines, looking very carefully at the projections of growth and need in that municipality."

How can the minister reconcile his statement with the comments of the director of his food land preservation branch, who has indicated that he did not attempt to evaluate the population estimates and who stated: "We're not in the demographics business. We have to rely on the city council's plan."

Will the minister now admit that the only reason he does not want to examine the population projection is the fact that it was increased from 266,000 to 344,000 only to justify the inclusion in the urban boundary of the 4,000 acres on the basis of a presentation to a

closed council meeting by Mr. Ron Webb, a name that I am sure rings a bell, who was acting for the developers?

**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the honourable member's welcoming remarks. It is nice to be wanted.

Just so the public record is complete, in answer to the member's question I wish to remind the House that there are a number of elements of that particular official plan amendment that one should consider.

First of all, there is a proposal in that official plan amendment to designate about 900 acres for industrial purposes; my ministry, after evaluating the proposal in line with the food land guidelines, has decided to oppose that proposal at the Ontario Municipal Board.

There is also a proposal in that official plan amendment to designate a certain area—I forget the acreage—for estate residential. We are opposing that, again because we believe it is in direct conflict with the food land guidelines.

With respect to the proposed designation of 4,000 acres of land for residential development, essentially what we have done in the ministry is to accept that there will be growth; there will be demand and need for more single-family housing in Brampton in the future.

Because nobody can definitively predict exactly what that growth will be, since obviously it is subject to so many factors in the economy, in responding to the official plan amendment we in the ministry took the position that the development of this 4,000-acre parcel of land should be phased in a way that will retain, until such time as it is needed—depending on whether the current estimates of growth are high or low—as much of the agricultural land as possible.

We did it in this way to avoid the possibility of a hotchpotch development of that 4,000 acres, which would have made the rest of it unworkable. In fact, I am told a great deal of it even now is not worked, but we want to be sure that as much as possible of that land is available to be worked for as long as possible.

**Mr. Riddell:** The minister is skating on thin ice, because he knows Brampton has no phasing-in policy. Absolutely no criteria have been laid down for this so-called phasing in the minister is talking about.

**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: My understanding is—

**Mr. Stokes:** It is a point of disagreement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. It is clarification.



**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** My understanding is that when the council of the city of Brampton received our comments it accepted that there should be phasing for that site.

**Mr. Riddell:** The minister also stated to us, "Where we get involved is when the plan has finally been submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and we then contribute our portion of the many comments which are gathered to make a decision on it."

Can the minister explain why he has not commented on the loss of another 800 acres of prime farm land immediately adjacent to the Brampton lands, in the town of Caledon? The matter has been referred to the OMB without his comments and a hearing date is already scheduled for April 30. Why has he, whose job it is to enforce the food land guidelines, not already taken a strong position on this matter in favour of preserving farm land?

**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** The Caledon official plan amendment number 38, if my memory serves me correctly, has several components. One is for industrial designation on the west side of Highway 10, and another is for residential with various densities on the east side of Highway 10, north of the Brampton city limits.

I know our staff have met with officials of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and I will check to see whether our comments have been sent to them. I have discussed with our staff what those comments will be, and I will be glad to get more information for the member.

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, what the minister has just said and what he is permitting in Brampton are clear violations of any of the principles of food land preservation. They simply ensure that any developer will get land wherever he wants it and that there is not going to be any shift to growth off the best food lands in this province.

The minister has stated he is going to tighten up the food land guidelines. Is he going to wait until after this hearing on Brampton so it will not interfere with his developer friends getting permission to develop those 4,000 acres? Will he make a public statement right now that, in general, class 1, 2 and 3 lands should have priority and should be preserved for food land preservation in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** Mr. Speaker, I remind the honourable member that he is, of course, selective in his reading and in his understanding of the situation. There are certain significant parts of that official plan amendment, as submitted by the city of Brampton, to which my

ministry is opposed and which we will be opposing at the OMB hearing. I take it that what he is saying is—

**Mr. Swart:** The excess will not be developed for 50 or 100 years.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** Is he ready to listen any more than in the past five sessions? Unless he is saying there will never be any more development in southern Ontario, I think he has to accept—

**Mr. Swart:** Oh, come off this.

**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** His own private member's bill from four years ago is essentially our policy. His own private member's bill of 1980 requires that the municipalities with the primary responsibility for land-use planning should make certain evaluations: first and foremost whether the particular development is required, whether it be residential accommodation, commercial, industrial or whatever; and second, whether there is an alternative to using good agricultural land. It is exactly the same as our policy; so he should not try to pull the wool over people's eyes.

2:30 p.m.

**Mr. Riddell:** I hope the advisory council which the minister is endeavouring to establish will advise him that one per cent of the land mass of Ontario is prime agricultural land and half of that is found in southern Ontario.

With that in mind, will the minister not agree with us that his approval of this large-scale development in Brampton and the plans for Caledon, which include a total of 7,800 acres of class 1 agricultural land in the Premier's (Mr. Davis) own backyard, offers a perfect example of the lack of commitment by this government to the preservation of agricultural land and of the inadequacies of the food land guidelines?

Will the minister not take a serious step in toughening those guidelines? Will he not endeavour to preserve the little agricultural land we have in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Timbrell:** I could point to some members of my friend's own party who have contacted me when there were applications in their constituencies, where we have opposed the use of prime agricultural land, to see whether we would not soften our stand. I am thinking in particular of a couple of years ago when I was contacted by three or four members of the party opposite to see whether we would not back off. We did not and we would not.

The Ontario food land guidelines have been extremely effective in controlling the development of agricultural land. The guidelines come



down to two very basic questions, as I indicated in answer to the member for Welland-Thorold (Mr. Swart). First, there is the question of whether the proposed development is needed. In the case of Brampton, we have accepted that there will be a need for more single-family housing in that municipality. We have not accepted that there will be a need to designate certain land for estate, residential or industrial, and we are opposing those things.

Having established that, the second question is whether there is an alternative. In other words, is there poorer land on which to put it? In the case of Brampton, there is not. If there were, that would be where we would be insisting the development should be directed.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Deputy Premier, the Minister responsible for Women's Issues. I would like to ask him about the so-called voluntary affirmative action program, which is the linchpin of the government's efforts with respect to affirmative action in the private sector.

Is the minister aware of the circumstances surrounding the implementation of the program at one company—and there are a number of other companies on which we are attempting to get information with great difficulty because the information is not released by the minister—with respect to the resignation of the co-ordinator of the affirmative action program at B.F. Goodrich in Kitchener?

In appearing before a forum on October 18, 1983, some months ago, Alida Burrett summarized the inadequacies of the program as follows: "The reality is the gap between having a program in place and implementation. This gap is huge. There is no legislation which requires a private firm to move beyond studies. Their efforts look great, but it can mean nothing beyond an exercise in public relations without any accountability."

What steps is the minister taking to see that the so-called voluntary affirmative action program carried out by the 250-odd employers involved in it has real meaning? What steps is he taking to see that it is something which is real and not simply a public relations sham, as is clearly evident in this case?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, obviously I am not familiar with all the details of the private company to which the honourable member makes reference. However, the speech from the throne is quite clear with respect to the continu-

ing commitment of this government to the whole principle of equality of access to the work place. That emphasis will be stepped up.

The most effective way in which we establish our credibility is as an employer ourselves and through the record of the government of the province in this regard. We will accelerate our program with emphasis on its voluntary nature and encourage the private sector to follow the example of the government as an employer.

As the member points out, the question of having access to information from the private sector is one that concerns me as well. When we deal with the private sector, there is a certain confidentiality about it, and to work with them we undertake to respect that area of confidentiality. So we do have some difficulty in follow-up with respect to the actual implementation of programs.

I am convinced that the record of the women's bureau, formerly with the Ministry of Labour and now with the women's directorate, is certainly worthy of commendation. I do not hesitate for a moment in agreeing that we should accelerate this program. I would like to see some further steps. As the member will recall, some emphasis is placed in the speech from the throne on what the government itself will do with school boards and crown agencies in this regard.

I think the most effective program now is to continue to provide the leadership we do and to work with the private sector in the ways that we have and will continue to do.

**Mr. Rae:** It is perfectly clear that the voluntary program the minister is talking about is just words. It sets no targets. It sets no requirements. There are no requirements with respect to publication or information. There is no way for the public to know just what this so-called voluntary program the minister is so proud of means.

We have a particular example of one person who clearly feels she has been spending a lot of time on a program and who feels the reality just is not there. In her sincerity, she felt obliged to resign from the company because she feels so strongly about the failure of action to follow the words.

The minister's only response is to say that he wants other companies to do the same thing; he wants other companies to get involved in the program.

Just what is the program? What are the targets? What is the meaning of affirmative action if it does not have any real substance or any cutting edge in law? What is the meaning if it is only a



bunch of words so that the minister can add the number of companies involved in the program? What does that all mean if the program does not add up to anything?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I am sure it will come as no shock or surprise to the leader of the third party that I do not agree with the conclusions he draws on the basis of one example from the private sector.

If we can just clear all that away for the time being, I welcome the opportunity to remind the member that the objective of the voluntary program in so far as the private sector is concerned is to concentrate on the almost 900 employers in this province who have 500 employees or more. At the moment, about 245 of those employers, after consultation with the ministry and working out the details, have voluntarily committed themselves to programs of equal access with respect to hiring, training and promotion—called, for want of another term, affirmative action.

I think that record is very clear and very commendable. That progress results in 33,000 women in this province being involved in employment with these companies and, I hope, benefiting from the programs put in place against that principle. We will continue to work with the private sector in this regard, holding up the justice and fairness of doing so and providing our own—

**Mr. Rae:** There is no standard and no requirement.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** There is so. There is a whole formula that is part of the consultative process.

As the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) reported in this House yesterday in response to a question, in a couple of days we will be dealing with the education community to step up efforts with respect to affirmative action there.

When it comes to rhetoric and unsubstantiated comments, the member would win the prize this afternoon. I would be glad to present him with a medal after question period.

The results are quite clear: 33,000 women and 245 companies in the private sector responding in a voluntary way, with a commitment in the speech from the throne to step up this activity in the name of equality of access for women in the work place. That is a pretty proud record under the circumstances.

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, the minister fails to comment that it is a total of 245 companies after eight years of voluntary affirmative action. I would not call that very great progress.

Let me ask the minister about his own targeting within his own civil service right here in Ontario. The minister stands in his place and trumpets the affirmative action program we have right here.

If the affirmative action program we have in place at Queen's Park is so effective, why has this government cut back on the number of targets for affirmative action within the civil service by one third, by more than 100 positions? Can the minister explain what kind of message that is sending out to the private sector?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, now that the honourable member has changed from the private sector to the public sector, he is making reference to the last report, tabled just prior to the consideration of my spending estimates, when I joined with the Minister of Labour to discuss this matter.

**2:40 p.m.**

I hope the member is not standing in his place to suggest that the record of this particular government is anything to be ashamed of with respect to affirmative action.

I invite this member to compare the record of this government with any other government in this country or any other government on this continent. I would ask him to take a look at the record. He knows very well that in the administrative module alone we set an objective of 30 per cent representation by the year 2000. We have reached that 16 years early. Why should we be particularly embarrassed by that? We should be very proud of what we are doing and we should be encouraged by what we are doing to provide that type of leadership to the private sector.

**Mr. Martel:** When in doubt, yell.

**Mr. Wrye:** When the government is cutting back, yell.

**Ms. Copps:** Thirty per cent in the year 2000 is a disgrace.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** The only information we have, because the government has denied us access to facts in the private sector, access to any information, and the minister has told us why, is the information that those people who have the courage to come forward are prepared to come forward and give.

Let me ask the minister to comment on the following facts with respect to this company, which is part and parcel of the government's program that he wants to extend. When he talks about extending the program, he is talking about



revving up hot air. That is the government's program at the present time.

Women are clustered in the lower-paid positions, primarily secretarial and clerical; 191 out of a total of 213 women, or almost 90 per cent, earned between \$11,000 and \$15,000 in 1983. In 1983 only 20 of 367 employees in higher categories, in professional and technical jobs, were women. In training, management nominated a total of only four women for development courses compared with 184 men during the years 1979 to 1981.

That is the reality in terms of information. I would like to ask the minister what is so affirmative about the program going on in this particular company? What is he doing to see that there is actually some reality in the kind of program in Ontario which he is puffing about?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** May I remind the leader of the third party that one of the reasons this party in government enjoys the confidence of the private sector in so far as its working programs are concerned is that it respects understandings and commitments. If confidentiality is one of the conditions under which we continue this program, then we respect it and we do not walk into this House and give evidence we do not respect those understandings.

I am in no position to comment on the details of a particular company. I have already commented to him about specific examples. I thought question period was time during which we would talk about general policy matters. There is absolutely no question in my mind that this government is committed to the whole concept of equal access to advancement in the work place. Our record speaks quite loudly in this regard and we will be judged by our deeds in this matter and not by any other comments. What we should do is invite him to join with us to help extend this particular program.

**Mr. Rae:** How can anybody assess the value of a program when the minister is not even prepared to table any of the material with respect to what is actually going on? That is the reality. He is covering up for the private sector. That is why he has lost his confidence. That is what he represents in the House.

#### EARLY RETIREMENT

**Mr. Rae:** My second question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Minister of Labour. It has to do with the plight of the older worker in Ontario.

With respect to the position of a number of older workers, the minister will know there are 32,000 workers who are over the age of 55 and

who are now unemployed. He will also know there are more than 500,000 workers over the age of 55 who are employed, many of whom would like to take an option of early retirement, if it was made available, in order to allow younger workers to get into the work force.

Given the seriousness of the kinds of changes to which even the government itself referred in the throne speech, can the Minister of Labour explain why there is no mention in the throne speech of specific programs with respect to making early retirement possible and giving compensation, training and whatever is possible to those workers who are over 55, who have been laid off and who have very little prospect of finding new employment in the labour market today?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I agree with the leader of the third party about the severity of the problem. It is one I have raised in the Legislature on more than one occasion.

The question the leader is asking is somewhat related to a question asked by the member for Hamilton East (Mr. Mackenzie) on Friday of last week. I started to answer that when question period ended, but I was not able to complete my remarks at that time. What I started to say was that last Thursday the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) and I met with Mr. Pilkey, the president of the Ontario Federation of Labour, and some of his colleagues. One of the items we had on the agenda and wanted to talk about with Mr. Pilkey and his colleagues was this very matter. It is one about which we asked him to submit some thoughts to the Treasurer in advance of the final compilation of the budget.

**Mr. Rae:** It is all very well for the minister to say he is asking for proposals. I would like to ask him what he is proposing to do. What is the government proposing to do about a major social problem which it has utterly and completely ignored? We have gone through an economic life change in this province without addressing the question of early retirement. It has been addressed in every other major industrial country with the exception of the United States in terms of a change in public plans. I would like to ask the minister why there has been no public response from the government of Ontario with respect to a major social problem in this province.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** While perhaps there has been no public response to the problem, there has been a great deal of study, concern and proposals put forward and it has been discussed at a very high level in this government. I do not say this on the basis that things are great, or anything of that



nature, but I would like to point out that the situation itself is improving.

I want to preface my remarks by stating if there is even one plant closure, that is a disaster, but the plant closures in 1983 as compared to 1982 approximated a 61 per cent decrease. In other words, 19,143 employees in 186 establishments in 1983 were involved compared to 49,385 employees in 346 establishments reported in 1982, an improvement of 61 per cent in plant closures. As a result, the problem of the elderly, which was very predominant in those closures, has improved somewhat.

I am not saying that is a proper answer to the question. It is not a proper answer and it is not a complete answer, but it is an indication that the problem has improved dramatically in the past number of months.

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, with more than half a million people out of work in Ontario, those figures read by the minister mean absolutely nothing. Since the minister really made no comment in the most recent debate of the Ministry of Labour during the estimates concerning the very important matter of early retirement, I want to ask him whether or not he has within his own ministry some plans or proposals that have been presented to him for his consideration and whether or not he will allow those plans or proposals to be seen by the Legislature.

Second, I want to ask the minister whether or not he knows the total figures of moneys spent by his government, the Conservative government, to create short-term jobs that lead to nowhere, and whether or not that money could be used to encourage people to retire early and, therefore, create an opening for a long-term job which would give a person an opportunity for stability and to earn a living and plan a life for himself.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I find that a little surprising coming from the honourable member. To talk about short-term job creation, this government in the past year spent \$110 million under the Canada-Ontario employment development program. That is not taking into account the money that was spent on capital projects that were advanced and so on.

**Ms. Copps:** For hotels, for Sault Ste. Marie developments. What happened to Hamilton?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

2:50 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** The COED program accounted for some 28,000 jobs in this province in the last 12 months. Granted, most of them

were of a short-term nature, but many of those part-time jobs became full-time jobs.

I would also like to point out to the member that money—\$220 million in total from the two levels of government—prompted contributions from the municipalities, from the private sector and from the nonprofit sector of a total of \$183 million, which was added to the \$220 million. It also had a ripple effect as far as goods and services were concerned.

I do not apologize and will never apologize for that COED program. There was a lot more to it than simply grass-cutting. A lot of pretty fine edifices have gone up in various communities across this province.

**Mr. Rae:** I do not think any member of this House can claim any monopoly of concern for what is going on. In terms of the minister's own riding and of the ridings across this province where there is a severe problem for the older worker who has been laid off, or whose company has left town and who is left with literally nothing, I simply ask the minister to consider that there is little possibility for retraining because it is very hard to get into those programs. The waiting lists are long and are skewed towards younger people.

These people are not getting adequate retirement pensions. Many have no pension plans at all. Half the workers in this province have no private pension plan whatsoever. They do not qualify for any public pension plans until they are 65. What is happening to those workers and what is the government going to do for those people? There are tens of thousands of them in Ontario. They have been there for a long time, and it is time the government moved to do something for those people.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I agree completely with the statement the leader of the third party just made, that no single member or party in this House has a monopoly of concern for the plight of those workers.

#### SKILLS TRAINING

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education about the confused and contradictory educational policy of her ministry.

The minister sat by, prompting the Premier (Mr. Davis) and giving him misleading information, as we discussed Ontario's contribution to skills training on Friday in this House. She will recall that in his response the Premier said we were relying on the community college system as



the major thrust in our skills training area and that it was an important part of government policy.

How could the minister sit back and tolerate that kind of response by the Premier when she was fully apprised of a secret report in her ministry, dated 1981, that said the community college system would have to expand by at least 20 to 25 per cent to accommodate the young people who wanted access and wanted the proper skills training? How can she, as a minister, allow the Premier to perpetrate that kind of false information?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I believe the honourable member is confusing factual information or his interpretation thereof. We do not have secret reports in the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. There was a report, which I think was initiated by the presidents in the system, that made a projection which has not come to fruition, but as a result of the projection and of the concern that was expressed, there was a considerable input of support for the college system, which has allowed it to meet the demands placed upon it.

I do not believe any young person in this province who has really wished to participate in a college program either through the skills development area or as a post-secondary program has been denied a place in the college system. If the member really wants to know, as of the end of September 1983, 50 per cent of all the programs in the colleges of this province still had places available for students, at a time when he was complaining that there were not enough places for post-secondary students in this province.

**Mr. Peterson:** Let me quote from the report of the Task Force on College Growth, a report completed in 1981 but never made public by the ministry. It said: "It seems reasonable to assume that a substantial portion of the 50,000 not accepted in 1980-81 were, indeed, qualified students who wanted to attend a non-quota program with excellent career opportunities. Indeed, it is interesting to note that if only one in five of these unaccepted applicants is a qualified applicant to a program with good career possibilities, the college post-secondary operation would have to be 20 to 25 per cent larger to accommodate them."

That is the minister's report, which was not made public. If she does the mathematics, she will understand she has cheated, according to her own report, roughly 10,000 students a year for the last few years, denying them skills training and opportunities to participate meaningfully in

the work force. That is her report, not mine. Why would she not make it public? Why would she not inform the Premier so at least they can have a meaningful discussion about the crisis we face in job training in the province?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member has made some quantum leaps in logic, as usual, from the reported word to a totally illogical conclusion.

As a matter of fact, if he would like to inspect the records of the college system and the records of the applications, he would find those predictions were not carried out. They did not come to fruition. There has been support for the college system in a way that has provided the colleges with the capacity to meet the requirements of the students.

If the Leader of the Opposition would like to bring me the names of students who have not been able to be admitted to college programs, I would be delighted to look into it. I would love to see one.

**Mr. Peterson:** I will bring them to the minister.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** All right. Would he like to give me one name? I would be grateful. As a matter of fact, that report, which he said was secret, was not secret. It was shared with the rest of my cabinet colleagues.

[Later]

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: In response to our last discussion, I quote from the London Free Press of September 10, 1983, where it says, "As many as one half of Ontario community college applicants are rejected because of program and space limitations," Fanshawe College president Harry Rawson has speculated." Again, the ministry is wrong.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Speculating.

**Mr. Peterson:** Does the minister want me to go on and read some more?

**Mr. Speaker:** No. Order, please. It is hardly a point of privilege.

#### HOSPITAL BEDS

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Health. He must be aware of the serious bed shortage at the Welland County General Hospital, which results almost every weekend in people on stretchers, either in the halls or in the emergency department. The weekend before last there were 11 people held on those stretchers, some for more than 24 hours, with such maladies as strokes, fractures and emergency surgeries.



I presume he is also aware that a man drowned in a bathtub last fall, at least partly on account of a shortage of nursing staff and an inoperative patient alarm system, according to the coroner's inquest jury. The hospital and the doctors are now being sued by the family for negligence in wrongly classifying the death as a suicide.

I presume he is also aware that 10 days ago one of the heavy emergency stretchers tipped over on a patient when he was trying to get out of it and gave him injuries which could have been fatal. He must be aware the news media in the area are demanding that steps be taken to resolve the deplorable situation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Swart:** Is he also aware there are 30 beds closed, which the hospital executive director says could be made operative in a few weeks if funds are committed by the government? In view of this very real crisis in Welland County General Hospital, will the minister immediately authorize those 30 beds to be opened?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, as I am sure the honourable member is well aware, I do seek, receive and respond to advice from representatives of the local community on district health councils across the province. I am aware the district health council in that area is in the process of finalizing a report, with recommendations, which is to be forwarded to me in the relatively near future.

**3 p.m.**

On the basis of preliminary information I have received, I understand it is likely they will be recommending additional extended care beds for that region. It would appear at this point that part of the problem relates not so much—

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Supplementary.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** No, I have not finished, Mr. Speaker. I was simply sitting down in response to your call for order.

**Mr. Speaker:** I was being distracted by the conversation flowing back and forth. We will give you half a minute to complete your answer.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** I am sure the interruptions are not making it any easier for the honourable member opposite to hear my comprehensive answer.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** We want to hear it, too. Tell us all.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Pardon?

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind the interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** The problem, as I perceive it at this point, subject to whatever impact the recommendations of the council may have on my perception, is not so much with the shortage of beds in Welland hospital as with the allocation and distribution of extended care beds in the area. As I understand it, the fact is that a number of the beds in the Welland hospital are occupied by persons awaiting placement in longer-term care facilities.

I also would draw to the member's attention something that may well assist in alleviating this situation, which is the allocation in the region of 21 new nursing home beds and 39 additional beds to the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Grimsby—

**Mr. Speaker:** Your time has expired.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** —which were approved but are not yet operational. Once they are operational, it is our expectation that they will relieve to a large extent the pressure on the beds at the Welland hospital and therefore address in part the situation of supply.

**Mr. Swart:** The minister must be aware that the recommendation of the health council for some 60 additional beds requires a total construction of new facilities, which will be at least two years down the road.

Is the minister not aware of the comments by Geneva Lewis of the health council when she said: "They are asking for space at the hospital and they have space. It just doesn't make any sense at all that they don't get it. It is stupidity"? If that does not convince the minister that those existing beds should be opened up to meet the need—

**Mr. Speaker:** Now for the question, please.

**Mr. Swart:** —perhaps the minister will give a favourable reply to the Tory executive in the Welland-Thorold riding, which is meeting tomorrow at noon with the hospital board; in fact, they are meeting in camera. Perhaps the minister would explain why the Tory executive asked for that in-camera meeting.

Would he use his influence with the member for Carleton (Mr. Mitchell), who is slated to be there as well, to open the meeting to the media so that the public will know whether they are trying to help solve the problem or whether they are simply trying to shut up the executive director of the hospital board?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** It is not hard to come to the conclusion that the member and his esteemed leader were educated in the same school of rhetoric. The ease with which he uses the word



"stupid" is becoming more and more evident. In fact, if the member were a little more careful in the way he assesses actual situations in his constituency and elsewhere in this province, he might find more sophisticated language to use.

I have no knowledge of a meeting between, if I heard the member correctly, the Tory executive and the hospital board. Is that what he said? I have no knowledge of any such meeting and I have no authority to recommend to the hospital board or to the Tory executive what the nature of their meeting might be.

If the member has views he would like to have taken under consideration by those parties to the meeting, I would suggest that he communicate them to the board of the hospital or the members of the Tory executive.

**Mr. Swart:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: The minister implied that I had said it was stupidity. I was quoting Geneva Lewis, who was appointed by that government—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The member made that quite clear when he put the question.

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, the minister is aware that the regional municipality of Waterloo has asked for additional nursing home beds and, since the district health council asked for 115 beds and none has been provided to the region in recent years, I am wondering whether some additional beds will be provided. I would refer particularly to the town of Elmira, which has asked for additional beds. The town built an addition to a home, based on ministerial statements of the last year or two that it would be allocated some beds, yet no beds have been allocated.

Would the minister first indicate, in a very positive sense, that additional beds will be provided within the next six months? If he cannot indicate that, will he at least indicate that he will meet with residents of that home and with some other people from Waterloo to indicate exactly what the policy of the government is with respect to additional beds?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is hardly supplementary. Answer very briefly.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Obviously, at this stage in the process I would not be making any commitments with respect to specific allocations of beds. I assure the member that the decision with respect to the allocation of beds is made on a priority basis, based upon the information supplied to us by district health councils in support of their recommendations.

Obviously, at any given time we do not get an allocation adequate to meet all of the expectations and projections across the province. Therefore, we try to address the most evident need, the greatest need, first.

I can assure the member that his area will receive full and fair consideration in that process, along with the other requests from district health councils across this province.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I wonder if we could revert to statements at this time in order to hear a statement from the Attorney General and someone from each of the other parties.

**Mr. Speaker:** May we have the unanimous consent of the House to revert to statements?

Agreed to.

## STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY

### DEATH OF CHIEF JUSTICE OF CANADA

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, it is with a profound sense of personal loss and regret that I formally inform the House of the death of the Right Honourable Bora Laskin, Chief Justice of Canada.

Chief Justice Laskin passed away yesterday in Ottawa at the age of 71. A native of Thunder Bay, Bora Laskin put his stamp on Canada's jurisprudence. He had a full and active life, marked by numerous accomplishments across a wide range of endeavours. In particular, his judgements in the area of constitutional law in the past decade earned him a special and lasting place in the history of Canada itself.

A prolific scholar and superb lecturer, Bora Laskin was one of the leading law professors of his generation. He taught at Osgoode Hall law school and was a founding father of the University of Toronto law faculty. During his academic career he distinguished himself in the fields of constitutional and labour law. As a labour arbitrator and conciliator, he was known for his concern to safeguard the rights of all parties before him.

Bora Laskin's career would have been a major one if he had stayed as Canada's most distinguished academic lawyer, but at age 57 he was appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal. For five years he brought a dazzling erudition to a broad variety of legal cases.

In 1970 he was named to the Supreme Court of Canada and, in an unprecedented move, in 1973 he was appointed the 14th Chief Justice of Canada.

His modesty and the court's collegiality would make it perhaps inappropriate to speak of "the



Laskin court." Nevertheless, the last 11 years have seen great changes in the work and profile of the Supreme Court of Canada. The court now has the constitutional authority, the administrative capacity, the intellectual ability and the philosophical willingness to rewrite Canadian jurisprudence.

**3:10 p.m.**

Major reforms have been made to the court's case load. During Chief Justice Laskin's term, the court has had to face problems concerning freedom of expression, the anti-inflation program, native rights, discrimination, the cruise missile, family property rights and a host of federal-provincial disputes. On all these issues, Bora Laskin's voice was clear, compassionate and powerful. He spoke for fairness, for the principle of legality, to preserve equilibrium in federal-provincial relations and to make Canada a more just and humane nation.

In the 1981 constitutional reference, the court had to face the most important case in its history. The case raised profoundly difficult and sensitive legal issues. As I wrote last year, "It was an unenviable position for any court, given the enormous political consequences of their decision."

Under Chief Justice Laskin's leadership, the court ruled it was legal to patriate the Constitution without unanimous provincial consent. The court's legal ruling had dramatic impact on the political process. It broke the logjam and started the talks that led to our new Constitution.

It is a sad irony that as Canada enters a new era, Chief Justice Laskin's views on the new Constitution will no longer be heard, that in the interpretation of the charter, where he could have made a final major contribution to Canadian jurisprudence, his voice is silenced. It was a voice that spoke of civil liberties, of dedication to the rule of law, of a passionate commitment to Canada. He transformed Canadian law in so many ways. He made the Supreme Court a prominent, creative and vital part of our nation.

Even with his judicial duties, Bora Laskin continued his service to the academic community. He was a governor of several universities, chairman of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and chancellor of Lakehead University throughout the 1970s. He was a leader of Toronto's Jewish community, active for many years at Holy Blossom Temple.

He once said he had been very fortunate with his family. Together with his wife Peggy, he raised a fine family. Both daughter Barbara and

son John may take pride and satisfaction in the achievements of their father.

On behalf of the government and the members of the Legislature, I extend our deepest sympathies to them and to the other members of the family.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Speaker, there are three communities that today mourn the passing of the Right Honourable Bora Laskin, Chief Justice of Canada.

There is the community of his family, for whom no eulogy or utterance of comfort can abate an unabatable loss. There is the community of lawyers and jurists, not only in this country but worldwide, for whom his lifelong endeavours represented striving in, and with, the law at its very highest reaches. Finally, there is the community of all Canadians, to whose benefit, with every ounce of physical and intellectual strength, his work was dedicated and this dedication was a blessing.

Of the function of the Supreme Court, he once wrote that "[it is] to oversee the development of the law in the courts of Canada, to give guidance in articulate reasons and, indeed, direction...on issues...of national concern...."

For more than a decade, that was his burden. He bore it with sensitivity, compassion and resolve. For more than a decade, that was our good fortune. The more than 20 honorary doctorates he received are evidence of his stature in the communities of higher education throughout Canada, in the United States and in Israel.

The tragedy of his passing is heightened by the irony that now, as we move tentatively from dawn to midday of a new constitutional era, his sensitive guidance and resolute direction will be absent. In the months and years to come, there will be many untested, darkened passageways lying in wait for the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The legacy he imparts to all Canadians is the brilliance and clarity of that devoted legal mind whose light, undiminished through time, will illumine those untried passages.

It is the inevitable melancholy of our fate today that we must say to the community of all who mourn, along with his work, along with his scholarship and along with his loving devotions, his memory too will now be for blessing.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of personal loss and I think on behalf of the loss of a great many Canadians that I speak today of Chief Justice Bora Laskin. If I might speak personally, he was a remarkable presence. He took not only great intellectual command of any situation, but



he was a man of great humour and personal charm.

It so happened that circumstances were such that Chief Justice Laskin and I lived in the same apartment building when I was a member of Parliament and he was the Chief Justice of Canada. We would meet quite often and discuss, not matters that were before the court but always what was going on in public life. He and his wife were always a tremendous influence in pointing out some of the ironies and absurdities of certain political and legal situations, but with a tremendous sense of fun and a great sense of people and of Canada.

I would like to speak about three major contributions Chief Justice Laskin made as a scholar and as a jurist. First, one has to speak of his tremendous contribution to legal education, not only in this province but in Canada. When that little band of scholars took the very difficult decision to defy the Law Society of Upper Canada, to form the University of Toronto Law School and take on the establishment, Bora Laskin was right there. He was very much involved in creating what he felt was an approach to legal education that had real integrity, independence and gave an academic and real depth to legal education in Canada. It is fair to say that, together with Cecil Wright and other people at that time, he transformed legal education in Canada. It is much to his credit that he did so.

The Attorney General has made reference to the extraordinary contribution Mr. Laskin made as a labour law arbitrator. As all law students recognize who came after his time on the bench and who studied labour law, he is the father and dean of labour law and jurisprudence in all of Canada. It is perhaps worth remembering that if anybody can be said to have developed as an arbitrator the common law of the shop which gave to the average worker a sense that he had a right of appeal and a right to some freedoms under law, it was the body of arbitration law which Bora Laskin had so much to do with. It was an application of law that applied equally to employers and employees.

One of his great efforts was to get away from the old idea of management rights and to see a new relationship between employers and employees as equals. He lost that battle because others who were at that time above him in the courts of Canada decided management rights had to be preserved. Nevertheless, he struck an important blow which we are going to come back to in jurisprudence in this country with respect to

finding an equal balance between workers and employers in the work place.

He also put a strong obligation on the part of unions. There are a great many people who will remember what he did with respect to the illegality of strikes during the course of a collective agreement that had a great impact on the new jurisprudence in Ontario and Canada. As a jurist, he made an enormous contribution to our jurisprudence, as stated by the Attorney General. He was an outstanding judge on the Court of Appeal and he was an outstanding Chief Justice of Canada.

**3:20 p.m.**

We have lost one of our most distinguished citizens. Ontario has lost one of its proudest sons. The Jewish community has lost one of its greatest representatives in this country. It is with an enormous sense of sadness that I speak today, but it is also with a sense of joy at a celebration of a remarkable and wonderful life during which he gave so much to others.

**Mr. Hennessy:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to join in expressing my condolences to the Laskin family and to Mr. Saul Laskin.

Bora was born and raised in Thunder Bay-Fort William many years ago. It is not generally known that he was an outstanding ball player and could have played major league ball.

I would like to join with my colleagues in expressing our condolences to Saul and members of the Laskin family. We feel deep sorrow at the passing of such a great Canadian. It will be a loss to Canada and the citizens of Thunder Bay.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you. We will revert to question period.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

(continued)

## STUDENT TESTS

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education concerning province-wide, compulsory, standardized tests.

I did not have an opportunity to attend the press conference yesterday but from the reports I received, no one seems to be any the wiser as to exactly what the minister is proposing.

Last week, the minister said the tests would be used in every Ontario elementary and high school, forming part of the student's academic record. We have heard about five different versions of this, and I am wondering which one is the correct one. Is it Ed Stewart's version? Is it Duncan Green's version? Is it the Premier's



version? Is it Dr. Stephenson 1? Or is it Dr. Stephenson 2?

In other words, are the tests to be compulsory? Are they to be standardized? In which grades are they going to be used? What is the minister going to use them for?

Perhaps the minister could clear up a lot of confusion for more than just the member for St. Catharines.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I refer honourable members to a very lucid account of yesterday's explanation written by an excellent woman reporter representing the Canadian Press, Jane Harrison, which is available to all members. It clearly and precisely outlines our position relating to the tests.

**Mr. Bradley:** Everyone else seems to be confused, but the minister has chosen one person who apparently is not confused.

The minister has suggested this is an extension of the Ontario assessment instrument pool. A publication put out under her name, called the Ontario Assessment Instrument Pool, says, "The Ontario assessment instrument pool is not designed nor should it be used for purposes of teacher evaluation or for the comparison of individual schools or school boards."

I have two questions emerging out of this. If it is an extension of the Ontario assessment instrument pool, why are suggestions being made now that it might be used to compare individual schools or school boards?

The second part of my question is, why did the minister not consult those who deliver education services before she made this announcement? Was it simply a late Gallup poll that had to be inserted into the speech from the throne?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I have no idea, because the Ministry of Education has not been involved in a Gallup poll since 1979, when we participated in a national Gallup poll related to the objectives of education from coast to coast. The honourable member may not be aware of that, but it happens to be factual.

I have said quite clearly that the foundation of the province-wide testing mechanism is the Ontario assessment instrument pool. That pool has been in the process of development since 1976. It has been developed as a result of the co-operation and activity of a significant number of teachers. It has been field-tested in a very large number of schools—I cannot give the names of the schools, because I do not know them as a result of the agreement made regarding the testing and validation process—by teachers within the system who have been ensuring the test

questions are valid, good and useful so that we have been able to develop a provincial norm for all the tests in the pool.

It is the purpose of the consultation process that we will ask the opinion of those involved in the school system with all sorts of points of view about it—from trustees to parents, parent-teacher associations, administrative officers, teachers and others—about the appropriate way to integrate the testing mechanism into the school system for the benefit of the students and for the benefit of those who are concerned about and interested in the record of the students.

There is no doubt that the test instrument will be used in support of the educational program of all the children within the school system, at least from grade 4 on at this point. I cannot tell members about grade 3 and below, because we are not making any predictions about that until a special study of the early educational program has been completed in about two years' time. But it will be used for the benefit of all the children at some time each year during their educational process.

Does this make it mandatory? I suppose it depends on one's definition of "mandatory." Will it be used as an indication of the rite of passage from one part of the education system to another? That is what the consultation process is all about, and that is what we will be determining.

I really would refer the member to the excellent articles that Louise Brown and Jane Harrison have produced.

#### ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE INVESTIGATION

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: During the month of December an unfortunate incident took place in this House involving the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea) and the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps), a certain matter having to do with the divulging of names and information about the registry.

The Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) told us during question period that he would get us information at the earliest opportunity. Later on he was heard to say that he would have a report for this House before we came back. We have not received it, and I am wondering whether it is just being hidden someplace or other or whether we are going to get a report on the Ontario Provincial Police investigation. I am quite concerned that the commitments made to this House have not been kept.



**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order: If the member for Scarborough West or any other member is truly concerned about the discussion of this investigation or if he is simply interested in scoring political points, I have a copy of the taped interview between me and the OPP, which I would be happy to allow any member of this Legislature to hear.

#### CORRECTION OF RECORD

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, may I have a point of clarification? There is an article in the Toronto Star—

**Mr. Speaker:** I point out to the honourable minister that we do not have any provision for points of clarification. However, I will be pleased to hear a point of order.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: There is an article in the Star loosely based on the exchange between the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon) and me yesterday. Unfortunately, the Star article states that I am sponsoring the conference at the end of this week.

That is not true. It is being sponsored by the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario and my colleague the Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch), plus women teachers in other federations. The conference is not going to last 10 days; it is going to last two days.

**Mr. Allen:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: The next time I stand up to make a point of order that is really a point of information or clarification, I hope you will indulge me.

**Mr. Speaker:** Just for the clarification of all members, the minister rose to correct the record, and that is certainly allowed.

**Mr. Rae:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: I wish to correct the record. In the course of the exchange I had with the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch), he made reference to a certain number and I made reference to a certain number with respect to how many companies were involved in the so-called affirmative action program of the government.

It is my understanding on the basis of discussions between my staff and the Ontario women's directorate, confirmed this morning, that the figure of 245 mentioned in the speech from the throne, to which the minister referred again today, in fact includes 18 school boards and nine municipalities. If that is not correct, I ask the minister to stand up and correct that part of the record. But it is my understanding that this

figure of 245 includes some 27 groups that are not private companies.

**3:30 p.m.**

**Mr. Speaker:** That is hardly a point of order or of privilege.

**Mr. Rae:** I corrected the record because I made reference to a number in my question to the minister. I think the number I mentioned was roughly 250. I wanted to make it clear that is the figure I was talking about.

**Mr. Speaker:** The member can pursue that during question period on Thursday.

#### PETITIONS

##### REASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY VALUES

**Mr. Cureatz:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, which I would ask be directed to the Minister of Revenue (Mr. Gregory), concerning reassessment of property values in the town of Newcastle.

##### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to present a petition on behalf of 10 electors in the great electoral district of Renfrew North.

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Newman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition which reads:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal



value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition is signed by teachers from various schools in the city of Windsor.

**Mr. Pollock:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from the Status of Women Committee of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, district 19, in Belleville, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, I am glad to read into the record a similar petition based on the resolution of my colleague the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps).

It is addressed: "To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition is signed by a number of my constituents from Fort Frances and Devlin, Ontario.

## MOTIONS

### HOUSE SITTINGS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that notwithstanding any previous order, the House will sit in the chamber on Wednesday, April 18.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that when the House adjourns at six p.m. on Wednesday, April 18, it

stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24.

Motion agreed to.

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BUSINESS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that notwithstanding standing order 64(a), private members' public business be taken up on Wednesday, April 18.

Motion agreed to.

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the membership of the standing committee on public accounts ordered on December 16, 1983, continue until further ordered.

Motion agreed to.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### OMBUDSMAN AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. McMurtry moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Wells, first reading of Bill 13, An Act to amend the Ombudsman Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, the legislation I have just introduced responds to an anomaly that was recently discovered in the Ombudsman Act.

The Ombudsman Act requires the Ombudsman to retire upon reaching the age of 65. The act also, by incorporating certain provisions of the Legislative Assembly Retirement Allowances Act, requires an Ombudsman to serve for five years before being eligible to receive a pension. It is apparent that if an Ombudsman is appointed after attaining his 60th birthday, it will not be possible for him to receive a pension.

Accordingly, the bill I have introduced will permit an Ombudsman to serve a full five years regardless of the age at which he or she is appointed. In this way the pension entitlement of ombudsmen will be protected without any exception being made to the general rule that a minimum of five years' service is required before a pension can be payable.

### ARBOREAL EMBLEM ACT

Hon. Mr. Pope moved, seconded by Hon. Mrs. Birch, first reading of Bill 14, the Arboreal Emblem Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, Ontario will be the first province to have an official tree. The initial move to find one began in 1980 with the proposal by the late James Auld to the Ontario



Forestry Association when he was the Minister for Natural Resources. A tree council established for that purpose considered 30 different species before choosing the white pine as the most suitable.

#### CITY OF KITCHENER ACT

Mr. Breithaupt moved, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, first reading of Bill Pr6, An Act respecting the City of Kitchener.

Motion agreed to.

3:40 p.m.

#### KITCHENER-WATERLOO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ACT

Mr. Breithaupt moved, seconded by Mr. Epp, first reading of Bill Pr11, An Act to incorporate the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation.

Motion agreed to.

#### WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EQUALITY ACT

Mr. Rae moved, seconded by Mr. Martel, first reading of Bill 15, An Act to provide for Affirmative Action and Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, this is the same bill I introduced last fall as a private member's bill. The bill was blocked at that time when the Conservative members voted against it and enough Liberals stayed away for the vote to ensure its defeat.

Unlike last fall's resolution, this bill is in two parts. The first part is modelled on the Occupational Health and Safety Act and would require every employer in the province to establish an affirmative action program to identify and eliminate barriers to economic equality in the work place. The second part consists of an amendment to the Employment Standards Act to require equal pay for work of equal value.

The bill is designed to deal at the same time with the two major contributors to the substantial wage gap between men and women, namely, discrimination in wage and salary rates and the concentration of women in lower-paid jobs. According to the most recent available figures, women's earnings average only a little over 60 per cent of men's.

Both parts of the bill are binding on the crown and its agencies as well as on private sector employers. In parallel with similar provisions in United States law, the bill requires an approved affirmative action program and compliance with the equal pay provisions as a condition of any government contract, grant or loan.

#### REGISTER OF LAND INFORMATION ACT

Mr. Martel moved, seconded by Mr. McClellan, first reading of Bill 16, An Act respecting a Register of Ontario Land Information.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, the bill would authorize the creation of a public register showing the ownership of all privately held land in Ontario, the use of the land and whether its owner is a resident or a nonresident of Canada. Every owner, purchaser or vendor of an interest in land in Ontario would be subject to a reporting requirement.

#### OAKVILLE YMCA-YWCA ACT

Mr. Kerr moved, seconded by Mr. J. A. Taylor, first reading of Bill Pr17, An Act respecting the Oakville Young Men's Christian Association and Young Women's Christian Association.

Motion agreed to.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

##### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

(continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate this opportunity to reply to the speech from the throne. I think it was George Orwell who wrote, "Political language is often an instrument for concealing or preventing thought rather than expressing it." In this year when we are all rereading Orwell to the extent we are, it is perhaps appropriate to remember that phrase as we plough our way through the densities of the throne speech. There are many parts of the throne speech which really require translation.

I know it is the view of the Premier (Mr. Davis) that there should only be one official language. I was delighted to see, however, that both French and English were used in the throne speech. I am going to be spending most of my time attempting to translate the English portions of the throne speech because they are the parts that require some elaboration and understanding in terms of what is actually happening.

As one would expect, the speech starts on a high note. It starts by observing that we are in the middle of "a year of special celebration and rededication." Then it goes on to say, "This is the 200th anniversary of the first major settlement in



Ontario." That requires some translation. It is not really the 200th anniversary of the first major settlement. There were a number of settlements in Ontario. There were enormous settlements of native people and then settlements established by French settlers as they came across Lake Ontario on the great fur trading routes.

This is the 200th anniversary—I am speaking hyperbolically but only slightly—of the foundation of the first Tory riding association in Ontario. That is what we are celebrating. What we are celebrating is the arrival of the first Tories in Ontario, and I think it is important. The idea that we are celebrating the fortieth anniversary was bad enough, but now the government is trying to tell us it has been here for 200 years. That is a point worth making.

I am not taking anything away from the fact that, in response to the number of quite genuine criticisms that were made of this proposal, the government has now turned it into a general celebration of all our heritages. I, for one, certainly intend to participate in those celebrations to the extent the government makes possible.

I do not know what arrangements are being made for members of the opposition to partake in the celebrations. I do not know what plans the Premier has brought forward for us to celebrate the arrival of Her Majesty and of His Holiness the Pope. However, I want the Premier to know my schedule is being set aside. Those days are being kept perfectly clear. Any time the Premier wants us to participate in any of those events, we will be there, ready and willing.

**3:50 p.m.**

I even composed a song that I was able to play for a number of school children in Windsor, which was a positive, joyful effort. It was regarded as such a success it was played twice on the six o'clock news. I would be very glad to offer it to the Premier. If he wants an official song written by the New Democratic Party, we will be more than pleased to provide it. I dare him to play it on the air. It compares favourably with "Preserve it, conserve it," or "Davis can do it," or "Good things grow in Ontario." It has as much zap as any of the jingles they have inflicted on the province over the last few years.

The throne speech, having touched the high note, then moves on and talks about the circumstances we face in Ontario. It talks about the rise in manufacturing shipments, the expansion of retail sales and the so-called expansion in employment. It refers in particular to the automotive recovery as if—and the Premier is

perfectly well aware of this—what the government of Ontario has done with respect to the automobile industry had anything at all to do with the—

The Premier is shaking his head. He says he cannot be held responsible for the recession in the automobile industry. I have heard him time and again say, "Do not blame us for what is going on in the auto industry." How many Tory cabinet ministers have we heard say: "It has nothing to do with us. It is the fault of Ottawa. It is the decline in trade in the United States"? Now we have the Tory party turning around and saying: "How clever we are. We are taking responsibility for the revival of demand for larger cars in the United States." We are not going to let them get away with that.

If that was not bad enough, we turn to page 4. Having spent a long paragraph pointing out the importance of the car industry—there is no argument from this party about the importance of that industry—it then goes on to say the mining industry in the north is "extremely robust."

There has been a decline in employment in the mining industry from 40,000 jobs in 1977 to 31,000 in 1983, a decline of 9,000 jobs. That is a very substantial decline in available jobs in that industry. To describe that as robust is not simply obscuring thought, it is twisting thought. It is not true. It is not the case. In community after community across the north, one finds a very uneven pattern in employment. There is profound concern in a great many communities across the north that jobs which once appeared to be stable and secure are no longer stable and secure.

It then goes on to outline the marvellous things that are happening at Hemlo. It was bad enough that the government took credit for the revival of trade in the United States for the automobile industry and tried to claim credit. With respect to Hemlo, the Tory government is trying to take credit for an earthquake that took place 5.5 million years ago to say that somehow it is responsible for that. That was before the arrival of the first Tory settlers in the province. It goes back even before George Drew. That is a long time ago. That is before pre-Cambrian society.

The Premier was sitting here with the speech, forcing the Lieutenant Governor to read the thought that somehow he can take credit for the existence of gold in northern Ontario in the Hemlo district. It is astonishing to me that we would have that approach from the government of Ontario.



There is a lot of other banality in the chapter described as "Our Circumstances." The entire throne speech is worthy of Beatrix Potter in the effective use of fantasy. But the most marvellous piece of fantasy, and the statement I like, is that the only reference to housing in the whole speech said that rising real incomes in what is described as an improved mortgage market will make for dramatic increases in demand for housing.

I suppose it depends on whether one is a lender or a borrower as to whether the mortgage market has improved. A lot of people have to be borrowers when it comes to buying houses. I know a little about that. I say to the Premier in all sincerity that the mortgage market has improved—

**Mr. Nixon:** I hear the member's new house is not in his riding.

**Mr. Rae:** Neither is the Leader of the Opposition's (Mr. Peterson). The member knows that perfectly well.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mine is; Main Street.

**Mr. Rae:** Carefully arranged. Let us look at this so-called improved mortgage market. It has improved for lenders, it has improved for the banks and it has improved for the trust companies so close to the government. The government has done such a good job of regulating and keeping in close touch with them. It has improved for the private lenders in our society. It has not improved for the borrowers in our society and it has not improved for the people in our society who are trying to buy their first house.

If we look at the inanity and the insanity of the interest rate policy that is being imposed on the people of Canada by the gentleman whom I call Bouey XVI, members will know that the interest rate policy in this province is going to get worse. For the government to say that the mortgage market has somehow improved, I guess it depends on their perspective.

We have over there the party which very effectively represents the lenders of this province; it very effectively represents the banks and trust companies. From their point of view, it is an improved mortgage market. From the point of view of the average borrower, it is no longer an improved mortgage market.

The government should have been aware of that when it came time to produce the throne speech. They should know there is very real concern that mortgage rates are going to be going back up, creating greater difficulties for the average home buyer. I would much prefer to be on the side of the average home buyer in terms of what is going on in this province than on the side

of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce or the Royal Bank or the Royal Trust corporation when it comes to talking about an improved mortgage market.

The speech then talks about a number of economic challenges that are facing the province and, Lord knows, we have enough of those. It says the government is going to be a friend of positive change, whatever that means, and then it establishes three goals with which it would be very difficult for anyone to disagree. I do not claim to understand fully the workings of the Liberal mind or the Liberal Party, but I dare say they would agree with the three goals.

I think any rational person would agree with the three goals. They want to improve the access for young people and women to the benefits of economic growth and challenging work; that is a goal which all of us can accept. They want to reinforce the ability of industry and mature workers to meet and master change; again, a statement of such general goodwill and bonhomie that one could hardly object to it. They also want to ensure a steady improvement in our quality of life and in the quality of government services.

The trouble with establishing goals in the throne speech, and they have set these out very clearly, is it allows us—those of us who are trying to understand and assess exactly what the government really is doing—to test the government's achievements against the goals. I do not know whether this is part of the assessment instrument pool technique. I am not quite sure what that is and I dare say the Premier and half the people who have been trying to figure out what is going on are not quite sure.

We know that testing is a very controversial and difficult subject for the government. They have a different program and policy every day, depending on whether it is Dr. Stewart, the deputy minister, the assistant deputy minister, the minister, or the Premier himself talking about it, but we are going to have to apply some very basic tests to the government in terms of meeting and establishing these three goals.

With respect to improving access for young people, let us test that. Let us see what they are doing. Let us have a hard look at what they are proposing. With regard to the women of this province, I think we have already seen in the last few days in this Legislature just how phoney the government's approach is.

As for reinforcing the ability of industries and mature workers to meet and master change, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) today was not



able to show us a single positive program that is being put forward by the government to deal with older workers, mature workers as they are called.

The third goal is the ensurement of a steady improvement in our quality of life and in the quality of government services. It has come time to look at what is happening with our environment. With the failure to invest in our resources, the failure to invest in our people, and the very real problems that exist in the health care system, I think we are going to be able to see how real the problems are with respect to the quality of life and the quality of government services.

It is time we called this government's bluff. They have established themselves as experts par excellence in words that have no real meaning, in phrases that are absolutely empty of content and in programs that have no substance. I believe this is a government whose basic achievements have at some point to be set up against the goals which have been established.

**4 p.m.**

For example, let us look at the youth employment situation. Let us look at what the government is proposing with respect to youth unemployment. The words are fine. "To countenance for long massive youth unemployment would be unconscionable and would diminish Ontario's future vigour. Simply, economic renewal without meaningful work for our young would be a cruel illusion." It should not be "would be a cruel illusion," it is a cruel illusion today.

It is a cruel illusion for the high school kids I was talking to at 12:30 today who said: "We do not know what to do. There are so many unemployed today and four years later it looks as if it will get worse." A sense of pessimism is sinking in to the younger generation and getting deep into our school system. That has to be not only a concern but also a terrible blot on the province itself.

Then the government turns around and says, "We should appreciate that our economy created 49,000 new jobs for young people during the past year." There is no mention of how many of those jobs are part-time. Those statistics conflict with the Statscan statistics we have, but that is an argument I do not want to get into.

There is no mention in the new program of the numbers of people who are unemployed and no mention of how many people the government is hoping to employ. They have described a situation in which a generation of kids is coming out of school without a sense of optimism and confidence in the future. They have described a

situation in which we have this terrible structural problem with the number of younger people who are unemployed, but they have thrown them pretty well nothing in terms of the substantive programs they are describing.

The only direct increase in funds they appear to be talking about is in very limited programs that provide only short-term opportunity and do nothing to deal with the fundamental problem, which is the absence of a modern and integral approach to the question of skills training.

They are suggesting an increase in funds for the Ontario career action program, a program, I would remind the Premier and the members of this House, that pays kids \$100 a week. It is a minimal program paying kids barely more than the welfare rates in Ontario. The major program they are putting forward is an expansion of OCAP. There is no mention of how much. If they doubled OCAP, they would be creating 12,000, 14,000 or 16,000 jobs, but for the 163,000 who are unemployed they have hardly touched the problem. It is a 10 per cent solution that hardly gets to grips with the real problem.

Then the government says, "Our youth employment counselling centres will be expanded significantly." Counselling for what? If there is no work available, they can have as many counsellors as they want. They can have as few windows as they want. If they have one window and one person giving the greatest counselling advice in the world and there is no work available, what is the point?

There is not a member in this House who cannot point to the kids coming into our offices with applications, with questions on their minds, not knowing where to turn, whether they are graduates from university or community colleges or kids who just left high school and have no access to the kinds of jobs that 10, 20 or 30 years ago they would have had access to in our society.

When it comes to the question of youth unemployment, the approach that appears throughout the speech is the identification of the problem, which we all knew they were going to be able to do because they have done their polling. They have done their assessment of the situation. The government is very sophisticated in its capacity to gather information and to know where the problem areas are. Some of us see them a few months later, but we have all seen the Decima polls that show where the government is vulnerable and where it is particularly strong.

They do the assessments and make the judgements in the areas where they are vulnerable, such as job creation, education, spending,



the problem of fiscal responsibility and so on. But what bluff has to be called? Having identified the issue, they have ads and fancy brochures and all sorts of publications about the problem. They have people downstairs offering information and government propaganda with respect to it, but there is no substance. There is no recognition of a genuine problem that is going to require a substantial investment of public and private money if we are going to solve it.

We are in the middle of an economic life change in this province the like of which we have not seen since the 1930s. If we are going to deal with that life change effectively, it is going to require a dramatic change in program, a dramatic change in approach, a dramatic change in the way we manage the economy and the way we provide for each other.

It is going to require a return to community values. It is going to require a return to a sense of sharing. It is going to require a return to a sense of the importance of public investment as well as of private investment and a defence, if I may say so, of the old-fashioned idea that government is there to do a job, to lead, to provide hope, to provide help and to provide a chance to people who have no chance in our society.

If we look again at what the government has said, and if I could just return to the effort of translating, I am reminded that the government talks about things like industrial change; that is the next chapter that comes on, "Industrial Development."

Now, when we do it, it is called spending, but I want members to listen to how the Tories describe spending. They say we must have "many initiatives designed to maintain and extend our social capital."

Who can disagree? But the translation of it, when we look at the actual proposals that are coming forward, is, "We are going to spend more in Tory ridings in order to keep some of our people working for a very short time." That is really what they are talking about. Again it is a complete discrepancy between what is needed, what is required, and what is being done.

**Mr. Kerrio:** They are spending more per capita than the New Democratic Party members.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for York South has the floor.

**Mr. Rae:** Let me give members another example of a sentence that requires translation. "In addition, we will intensify our efforts to attract American tourists to Ontario." The only translation of that is, "We are going to start advertising more in the United States in order to

encourage people to come to the province." That is the sum total of the substance of the government's policy with respect to tourism: more advertising.

Having said that we are in the middle of an economic life change, the Tory party in its own way seems to be saying there are major changes happening in the province and there is going to be a need for major reform.

I find it ironic that, having identified a problem again, they come to talk about technological change and the importance of government providing some kinds of assistance.

Listen to this. There are some things here that really do require translation. "With the growing mobility of capital and technology"—that means the number of multinational companies disinvesting in Canada, the number of companies that are taking their money out of the country and closing down plants; that is what "mobility of capital" means; it means that capital goes on strike, leaves Canada and Ontario and goes elsewhere—"our people will be the critical arbitrator of our wellbeing."

I defy the Premier to tell me what that means. "Our people will be the critical arbitrator of our wellbeing." Of course they will; they have been ever since we established a political democracy in this province.

I am going on because I think these sentences deserve to be read, parsed and truly understood.

"Good government cannot protect our working people from change itself, but it can equip them with the ability to change"—the ability, yes, to go from being employed to being unemployed—"and to continue to enjoy rewarding, valued employment."

**4:10 p.m.**

The point I am making is this. As has been described, and as the Premier and every member must understand, employers and plants that were previously secure sources of employment, in his riding as in everybody's riding in this province, are no longer that way; plants that were previously hiring are not hiring any more and plants that previously had 10,000 or 12,000 employees no longer have anywhere near that number. Look at every basic industry in this province and we see a substantial pattern of the reduction of employment opportunity; which is not temporary, it is permanent. It is a permanent change. It is a life change.

What do we have? Do we have any reform of the social security system proposed in this speech? None at all. Do we have any mention of the importance of early retirement or of the



importance of giving a chance to workers who have been laid off or who have been set aside by their employers? Do we see any mention of the need to give them a chance? There is nothing at all. Do we see any legislation with respect to plant closures? There is nothing at all.

Do we see any reference to the committee the Minister of Labour established under Don Brown? Where is Don Brown's body and Don Brown's report with respect to what is happening to workers and bankruptcy in the province? It was supposed to report in December. It was supposed to tell the workers of this province who have been affected by bankruptcy and who have been affected by change that there was something the Ontario government could do. That was the promise held out to us when the Minister of Labour appointed the committee and got the problem off the government's back for a while. There has been no action, no mention of it; not a word, not a peep.

I want to tell the Premier that if he drives along Lawrence Avenue, as he is heading out west, and I do not know in which direction he drives home but I am sure he goes in a westerly direction, he would see a number of plants that are closed. If he took the trouble, he could go along Lawrence Avenue West. If he was out at a party meeting somewhere, perhaps in the riding of the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) discussing, as I am sure he does, the very meaning of the tests which the minister is attempting to impose on Ontario, after he has had his discussion of those tests he could drive along Lawrence Avenue. If he does, he will pass a number of plants that are closed.

One of the plants which is closed is the CCM plant. That CCM plant went bankrupt. I do not think there is a person in this House who has not seen a CCM bicycle or who was not a proud owner of a CCM bicycle. Over the years, that company was allowed to go downhill.

Most observers who have looked at it—and I have talked to a number of local business people in the area—say those who were responsible for the company skimmmed off from the company. For a time, they did not reinvest in it. In 1982 the machinery was the same as in 1910 and 1930. There was no reinvestment and the plant eventually went belly up, but it went belly up in a way that deprived the workers of any severance pay. It went belly up in a way which reduced the workers' pension benefits because the company had not been paying money into the pension plan for a number of years. It went belly up in a way that has left literally dozens of those workers still

unemployed today, more than a year after the plant closed.

More than a year after the plant closed, people are still coming into my riding office and asking, "What can you do for me about the pension plan?" We are still waiting for answers from the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (Mr. Elgie) about the pension plan to which there were no contributions from the company. We are still waiting for answers about an adjustment for those workers. There has been absolutely no protection provided for those people, many of whom were people who worked for the company for 30 and even 40 years.

That is what change means to those workers in Ontario. This is not some abstraction that circumstances will be a little different. That is what change means. We have had a government which has been sitting on these major social changes for the last five years and has done absolutely nothing about them. There has not been a change in employment standards law. There has not been a change in the pension law. There has not been a change in any aspect of our social security legislation during that entire time which would give workers of that kind a single opportunity, a chance, a dime, a nickel, or anything at all. That is a disgrace.

That is something which eventually is going to make the people of this province very angry, because they are going to start to see that for all the fine talk about coping with change and government being a friend of change, the government has been a friend of change which has left lots of workers without any sense of chance, hope or opportunity. That is the tough reality in this province. There is not a member on this side who cannot go back to his riding and quote examples of exactly the same situation.

The government sat by and said, "It is a change which is going on outside in the rest of the world and there is nothing which can be done." The government has made no response in a social way and has made no response in a human way to give a sense of opportunity to those people.

The government has said it is a federal problem and it is something which is going on in the United States. They are now starting to take credit for the change for the first time because they see some signs of recovery in parts of Ontario. They are saying, "Look how clever we have been. Look at the recovery that is happening," as if the recovery had anything at all to do with what they have done in the last four or five years. It has nothing at all to do with what is going on.



I see the Minister of Education sitting there, quietly marking her papers. She is trying to pass her exam. I do not know how successful she will be. She is assessing her instruments.

I noticed with interest today, in something that came across my desk, that the Premier has been invited by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education to the Jackson lectures. As I am sure all the members know, these are lectures that were established by OISE to recognize world authorities on the subject of education, experts on education.

In its wisdom and independence, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education has appointed one William G. Davis as the Jackson lecturer for 1984. That is a display of independence and courage on the part of OISE which I think will stand it in good stead for many years to come. The world expert, William Grenville Davis, on the subject of education. I defer to the Premier's world expertise on this subject and look forward to hearing his profound thoughts as they are expressed in an entirely nonpartisan, nonpolitical way. He is not to be there as a political person at all, simply as a world expert.

I look forward to sharing in his world expertise. I have not read any of his books on the subject. I have not had a chance to read any of his learned tomes on the question of education and educational opportunity but, since this is to be an entirely nonpartisan occasion, I am sure he will take the opportunity to give the kind of world-expert approach for which he is so well known.

I am sure he will be spending nights writing, sweating to get that out. The midnight oil will be burning on Main Street in order to get that speech out there. I am sure no other people will have a hand in the production of it, certainly not the Minister of Education. She will not be writing it.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Why does the member not come and listen? He might learn something.

**Mr. Rae:** I received an invitation. I do not know whether that will be possible or not, but I will certainly do what I can.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The member said he would scrap his whole schedule.

**Mr. Foulds:** That was for the Pope and the Queen. Boy, the Premier does have ambitions.

**Mr. Rae:** I know the Premier has a very high view of himself. I know he does pontificate but I had no idea he assumed that, having pontificated, he was elevated to the status of a pontiff. I am surprised to hear him saying it.

The approach to higher education that the Minister of Education has set out is henceforth

going to be selective. That is the watchword now. We are going to have a higher education program that is going to be selective. I think one could say the whole approach of the Tory party to education is selective. The approach to the whole question of education has been highly selective. It is based on streaming, on a kind of elitism which is eating its way through the system and denying opportunity to younger people.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** That is not true.

**Mr. Rae:** Just listen to what I have to say. I know the Minister of Education does not like listening to another point of view, but it is another point of view.

There are actually people in Ontario who do not agree with the minister's policy and who are not terrified of her response. Her approach to higher education has been so selective that now literally hundreds of kids who want to get into university cannot do so. Congratulations. The minister has made it a very selective process. She talked to the universities—and I see people over there shaking their heads. She talked to people at York University. She can come down to my riding and talk to the kids who applied to the university and who now are getting a response saying: "We are sorry. We cannot let you in. You are going to have to leave town."

These are kids who do not want to leave town, whose parents cannot afford to send them out of town, whose parents can afford to have them at school and at university only if they are going to be living at home. Those are the kids who are being treated selectively by the Tory government of this province. That is the approach to selectivity the minister is imposing. That is what selectivity is all about.

**4:20 p.m.**

The minister may not like it but when we were debating Bill 127 I said to her that she cannot have it both ways. She cannot be cutting back and not take the consequences of those cutbacks. The consequences of her cutbacks and the consequences of her selectivity are a denial of opportunity. It is written, as surely night follows day. That is what she is doing and that is what she has done to the educational system because of her cutbacks. That is what she is doing to the higher educational system because of her cutbacks, and it is something that is going to be a subject of major debate in this province, because we are looking at very different approaches between her party and ours when it comes to the future of education in this province.

All the minister's reforms are directed towards students who are academically bound. She has



ignored, systematically and totally, the interests of students who are vocationally or technically oriented. Even the Ontario assessment instrument pool she has established, the Premier said the day it was announced in the speech from the throne and then withdrawn, put in again, explained and then re-explained, is not going to be applying to technical subjects.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** What is more, she is right.

**Mr. Rae:** She is about as far right as one can get.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** No, I am not. That is only your assessment.

**Mr. Rae:** There is a major difference of opinion. I do not know what assessment she is using or what pool she is using, because it changes from day to day. Why did Ed Stewart have to explain it to everybody?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** When?

**Mr. Rae:** The minister is not keeping up with her own clippings. I am surprised. I would have thought that somebody with her ambition would know all about what is being reported in the press about her every day.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It may come as a shock to you, but not many of us on this side of the House spend as much time reading clippings as you do.

**Mr. Rae:** I know how to read. The Premier has people to do that for him.

**Mr. Martel:** He has flunkies to do that.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** That is what Ed Stewart is for.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I do not read clippings.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The time is yours, members, but the member for York South—

Interjections.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** Nothing could be clearer, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Martel:** The Premier should relax.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** You are interrupting your leader, Elie.

**Mr. Martel:** You and Bette have been doing that all afternoon.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I heard the same speech in the mid-1960s.

**Mr. Rae:** I am having a good time. I do not mind being interrupted. I am a simple soul trying to understand this document. I am trying to understand the government's policy. I am trying to understand what it wants to do. It seems to

want to send a signal. It is very clear what it is trying to do when it uses the phrase "province-wide testing." It is trying to send a signal out to particular people in the community who think the answer to what is going on in our educational system is simply to get tough.

The Minister of Education is a very effective symbol. She is not a token, as she was described so mistakenly by the House leader of the official opposition. She is not a token but a symbol, and the government is trying to send out a message through that approach. But when people start asking: "What does it actually mean? What tests are you going to apply? What are you going to be doing? What are you talking about?" they reply: "We are not talking about anything. We are talking about a program that has already been in place for three years."

If it has already been in place for three years, why is it being announced in the speech from the throne? If it is not a new initiative, why is it being proposed to the people of the province as if it is some kind of new initiative? If it is a new initiative, what is new about it?

All of us have to explain ourselves sometimes, but the minister had a process that started last Wednesday. She had ministry officials scuttling around saying, "No, it does not mean the instrument pool." We phoned them, and we had the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation phone them.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege—

Interjections.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, but no official or member of the staff of the ministry said it was not the Ontario assessment instrument pool. It is the Ontario assessment instrument pool, and that was stated clearly right from the beginning.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I wish you would try to understand these things, Robert.

**The Deputy Speaker:** I remind the members there has been a near imputing of falsehood back and forth.

**Mr. Rae:** No, not at all.

**The Deputy Speaker:** You are talking about the ministry, and that is fine. However, will you clarify it in your response?

**Mr. Rae:** No, Mr. Speaker. With great respect, I do not impute motives for a moment, and let me explain to you why. I do not think the civil servants in the ministry, or indeed in the Premier's office, knew what was going on. I do



not think they understood what was going on. I do not think they were told what was going on. I certainly would not want to imply for a moment that the government itself knew its collective mind on this particular question.

What I am saying is what I know, that there has been total and utter confusion with respect to what the policy of the government is with respect to these tests. To whom were they designed to apply? Exactly when are they going to be introduced? When are students going to be taking them? What effect are they going to have on the average assessment of a student? I do not think that is an unfair comment.

We have had contradictory statements between the Premier and the Minister of Education, the Premier saying they would not be used in the question of whether or not a student had passed and the minister herself stating they would be one of the things taken into account.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** They would be part of the student record.

**Mr. Rae:** They would be part of the student record. All right. Then the minister is looking at a change that takes place day after day with respect to exactly what it is that is being introduced.

I know the minister does not like it.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** We will do an information session for you to understand what it is. Okay?

**Mr. Rae:** I can understand. It is frustrating.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I would be delighted to entertain you with that, absolutely delighted.

**Mr. Rae:** I know it is difficult when there are people out there who do not agree with her. It is so difficult; I know it is difficult; I know it is hard for her. I appreciate how difficult it is for her having people out there who actually do not understand what it is she is trying to do.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Would you like to have one tomorrow morning? Obviously you do not understand.

**Mr. Martel:** Ah, that is it. We do not understand.

**Mr. Rae:** Everybody is out of step but the minister; that is the approach we have to take.

**Mr. Foulds:** Even the Premier.

**Mr. McClellan:** The Premier is the one who is out of step.

**Mr. Foulds:** The Premier is going to set it straight in his world-renowned lecture.

**Mr. Rae:** Let us look at this thing. They have got themselves in a pool, and they are not going to be able to get out of that pool for quite some

time because the proposal has not yet really been clarified, if I may say so.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I invite you to read Miss Harrison's report and Louise Brown's report. It is very clear. It takes a woman to understand.

**Mr. Rae:** Have another seminar explaining the statements that were made over the last week. Have a symposium. Have a seminar for all of us that will allow us to deal with this problem.

**Mr. Martel:** Have you missed anyone today yet, Bette?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** You, Elie. I have not started on you yet.

**Mr. Martel:** Oh, I surrender. I am a coward.

**Mr. Rae:** Let me say this: the minister has done to the House leader of our party what no other member of our caucus has been able to do. I congratulate her on that—temporarily.

**Mr. Martel:** I surrender.

**Mr. Rae:** He has surrendered; he has not surrendered to anybody else before.

M. le Président, avant que le premier ministre ne prenne son congé, puisque je sais qu'il va s'en aller, je veux dire un mot au sujet de la référence à la Cour d'appel sur la question des droits de l'éducation minoritaire.

J'étais fier d'être chef de mon parti et de pouvoir être représenté à la Cour d'appel pendant cette présentation si importante sur la question des droits minoritaires.

I would like to say to the minister that when it comes, again, to an embarrassing moment for the government where the right hand of the government did not know what the left hand of the government was doing, I wish she had been there as the Minister of Education to hear the Court of Appeal when they asked why the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) was referring a matter to them when the amendments were introduced two days before the end of the session, before we had a chance to look at it, before we had a chance to debate it, before we had a chance to do anything.

The government introduced the amendments to the Education Act, which were not part of the reference to the Court of Appeal. I am sure the minister must have known—did she know the Court of Appeal was going to be considering something in January that was different from what she introduced in December?

**The Deputy Speaker:** This really is not question period.

**Mr. Rae:** It is taking time to sink in.



Interjections.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** No heckling, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Rae:** I do not mind this, Mr. Speaker. I just think it is important for us to know that again it is an instance where the minister clearly did not know what was on the Attorney General's mind.

She should have seen the face of the Attorney General's lawyer when he was asked by the Court of Appeal, "Is the Attorney General aware what the implication of the introduction of that legislation is going to be for the consideration of the reference?"

She should have seen his face; it was a study. It was a study because she herself introduced this legislation without any apparent consultation; or if there was consultation, then the conduct becomes even more inexplicable.

4:30 p.m.

I say to the minister, with great respect, when it comes to French language rights in Ontario in the field of education, the minister's and the government's failure to do the simple thing—to provide, in terms of governance, the same rights to French-speaking people in Ontario as are given to English-speaking people in Quebec—is a blot on its performance and on its record.

The government is going to continue to have the same situations in Windsor, Penetanguishene and Michipicoten that we have described in this House—that long litany where an aggrieved minority is forced to go on its knees to the government of Ontario to get minority language education—until it does the simple, basic and direct thing, which is to give the French-speaking people in this province the right to run their own schools. What is wrong with that?

I assumed that was what the minister was talking about in that sort of epoch-breaking introduction to her estimates. She talked about the threat to western civilization and the end of the world and Rome and Greece. I assumed she was referring to French-language governance.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Assuming is always a dangerous thing to do.

**Mr. Rae:** I have no idea what she was referring to. She was either referring to that or to heritage languages. It is very hard to tell. I do not know. All I know is she is sending signals out there and everybody knows what those signals are.

The signal the minister should be sending out to the French-speaking people of this province is: "We are going to give you the same rights as the French community in Quebec gives to the

English in terms of governance of their schools." It is a much simpler and more direct process. It would effectively depoliticize and do a great deal to reduce the controversy. It is an area that is going to plague this province for some years to come if something very swift and direct is not done about it.

I cannot resist saying that the last two chapters of this document are described as serving the community. I think there is another chapter which talks about getting value for money—no, that is all part of serving the community. I am sorry, it is sometimes hard to know exactly how the government is going to be packaging these things.

It talks, for example, about remaining "vigilant in the protection of Ontario's birthright, the environment," but it says there may be a need "to reform, from experience, the processes in our regulatory framework." If that were coming from some other kind of government, one might say: "That is a smart thing to do. It is going to try to simplify some processes and provide for some deviations."

It is worth pointing out that from a review of the prosecution activity of the Ministry of the Environment—something that would not take an awful lot of time to review—it appears that from April 1, 1982, to August 30, 1983, there were 60 fines laid against different companies and individuals. The total amount of these fines collected by the ministry was \$125,000, which meant the fines averaged approximately \$2,000.

Since the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch) is here now holding the ship of state almost alone, apart from a couple of his colleagues, his finger amply placed in the dike, I again refer him to March 2, 1984, when a study found that polluting was more profitable. This was a study done by that radical group of public interest researchers called Peat Marwick and Partners of Toronto and commissioned by the Ontario government. It says:

"Fines that have been levied for conviction of pollution offences in Ontario have in many cases been almost trivial. Even where fines against a single polluter have totalled as much as \$35,000, they have usually amounted to only a fraction of the compliance costs."

That is the world this government is operating in. Instead of having the polluter pay, it pays the polluter to pollute. The fines established are so minimal, the laws are so inadequate and the regulatory structure is so unprepared to deal with the problem of pollution that even its own consulting study finds that it is more profitable to



pollute in Ontario than it is to comply with the law.

That is the situation described by one of their independent studies that was commissioned at great expense, I am sure, from a consultancy firm, the contract for which I am sure was tendered very carefully so we know we got value for money with respect to that piece of advice. The question now is, what is the government going to do about it? That is the March 2 study.

Many of us might have thought that, having commissioned a study and having been told by the study that there is a problem, the government would have responded in the speech from the throne. It would sense that Peat Marwick is not to be ignored and should be taken seriously. Instead, we got a statement that more mediation is going to be introduced so there will be more compromising with the polluters. Now we are going to see a steamlining, modernizing and pruning of government regulations that will be pursued energetically this year.

Nothing is said about enforcement or about the problem in our society that pollution has become more profitable than complying with what is going on. There is just a statement that it is going to start pruning. That is the government's response—pruning regulations. That means fewer fines, less prosecution and less vigilance in protecting the environment.

I am glad it is 1984. One really has to be an expert in doublethink and Newspeak. The government says, "While we remain vigilant in the protection of Ontario's birthright, the environment"—in case we were not quite sure what Ontario's birthright was—"we are prepared to reform, from experience, the processes in our regulatory framework." There is not a peep about enforcement or about what needs to be done.

Then there are grand words in the speech about what is happening to our forests.

I must confess I find it sad to have to say these words, but I was travelling from Kapuskasing to Sudbury after I had been visiting with the Sensenbrenner workers. That was a group of individuals to meet, an unhappy and angry group of people who talked about their reaction to the political process and the response they got from the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman).

I vividly recall the day when, having waffled on a question, the Treasurer went out of here and said they would not have to pay it back. He said he could not imagine a world where they would have to pay it back. He could not imagine that unfairness. Then they ended up in a situation where he suggested they work coffee breaks and

work for free at lunch hour. People do not work for free in Ontario. It is against the Employment Standards Act for an employer to ask one to work for free. We have come out of those days of—I would not even say of the 19th century. It is a long way gone. He cannot impose that kind of settlement and he knows it.

That was just a diversion from what I was getting at. It was while I was in the airport that I picked up a copy of Northern Ontario Business. There was a supplement on forestry. There was a long and extensive interview with that independent expert on the subject of our forests, the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope).

I had always thought he was somebody who had a sense of fair play—and I am choosing my words as carefully as I can in the circumstances—yet when I read the things he says here about the task force that his party established on forestry and I look at the number of statements he makes in his report that are simply untrue, I am absolutely astonished.

For example, he says, "In spite of what you were hearing in 1982 about a shortage of wood, by the end of 1983 you had the NDP task force and the industry themselves finally admitting that the problem was not a shortage of mature timber."

The minister should go to Hearst and talk to the operators there as well as the operators in a number of other communities in Ontario and get a sense from them as to what their concerns are about the future of available and merchantable supplies.

**4:40 p.m.**

The question is not the number of trees; the question is what can we use the trees for. Who has access to those trees. Who has rights to those trees? The minister knows that. He knows we know it. He knows that is what we said in our task force report. He knows that is the problem.

He is saying we are no longer saying something we have said before. He said our task force fell flat on its face in northeastern Ontario. I wish he had been there when we met with the mill owners in Abitibi and Kapuskasing. I wish he had been there when we met with the workers and talked to them about a number of problems we had. I wish he had been there when we spoke to the people in the communities about the difficulties in northeastern and northwestern Ontario.

I just say to the minister, as I will say to the Deputy Premier since he is here representing the government, if the minister has something he wants to tell us or some new figures he wants to give us, let him give us the figures. All I know is



there is a major problem in terms of the future of a merchantable supply of timber. There is an enormous problem because of the lack of investment and the lack of reforestation. There is also an enormous problem because the minister has cut back on the ability of the ministry to give us the information we need to know.

I want to pay tribute to the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren) for the kind of work he has done as the chairman of our task force. I want simply say when it comes to the question of the integrity of our information and the integrity of the approach of the member for Nickel Belt versus the information the minister is not even prepared to table in this House—just as the Deputy Premier is not prepared to table the information with respect to affirmative action—I say to the minister, and I mean it quite sincerely, I am prepared to trust the member for Nickel Belt over the Minister of Natural Resources any day of the week.

I find it ironic in this speech that when they talk about serving the community they manage to talk about it without mentioning the Canada Health Act and without mentioning extra billing. They do that without mentioning the controversy, which I think is a real one, not only coming from our party but also coming from many people in the community, about the concerns about chronic care and the operation and extent of private profit operations in the chronic care field. I think there is a whole range of subjects which has not even been touched or covered by the minister or the government. I find that astonishing.

Since they are complaining about it and saying they are going to be \$50 million to \$60 million short and they are going to have to go out and raise more money, I find it astonishing that they would not mention it in the throne speech. The very same week the throne speech came out, the Treasurer was going around the province talking about how much money he was going to have to raise and how much taxes were going to have to go up. Why was there no reference to that in the speech from the throne?

Why was there no reference in the speech from the throne to this major public debate on the subject of extra billing which has been going on for the past number of years? Why was there no coming to grips with the changes that are necessary in our health care system? There was nothing at all. The only thing they referred to was the need to do some things about kidney operations and so on, about which they will have no disagreement from us.

Every year the government chooses a particular area of the health care field to focus on and attempt to highlight. I do not object to that. I think anything that focuses public attention on that aspect of health is a good thing, but why not talk about the basic problem in the system, which is the the absence of long-term beds and the resulting fact that the system is backed up? Every Minister of Health should be aware of this problem by now.

We had the previous minister's consultation process which went on around the province. In the throne speech there is not a word about it, not a peep, not a mention. There is no mention of the Canada Health Act, and I cannot understand it.

The Tory's position on extra billing is so popular—I mean the government's defence of extra billing. They have seen the polls. They know 80 per cent of the people are opposed to extra billing. I cannot imagine why, having seen those polls, the government would not state its courageous position that it believes in extra billing, supports extra billing, thinks extra billing and user fees are part of the system, supports those fees and supports the imposition of fees. I am surprised we did not have a defence worthy of the National Citizens' Coalition coming from the government of Ontario with respect to the health care system.

I find the silence on the subject of extra billing unbecoming to a government which, surely to goodness, is going to defend to the last degree, to the nth degree, the right of each and every doctor to maintain his sacred relationship with his own wallet. The Tory party has believed in the doctor-wallet relationship and the sacredness of that relationship for a long time.

They resisted medicare, hospital insurance and every single major advance on the subject of the provision of health care. I am astonished the government of Ontario did not join the Ontario Medical Association and the National Citizens' Coalition in their statements and the outrageous bunk they have been perpetrating on the people of the province. I am surprised they do not have the courage of their private-profit, free-enterprise, malarkey views with respect to health insurance and the future of health care in Ontario. Why keep it such a secret? Why keep their light under such a large bushel?

Why do they not come forward and take that battle and go out to the people of Ontario? I challenge them. Let us have an election tomorrow on the subject of extra billing. Let us have their defence on that issue and let us get it out. Let us go out and sell to the people of Ontario



the right of each and every one of them to pay directly to the doctor and to pay whatever the doctor wants to charge whether he happens to be any good or not. Let us have an election on that theme. I am surprised they are so shy. I am surprised they are so silent.

Let us have some advertisements. Those guys have been playing golf with the doctors all these years. Why do they not do something for those people? They are leaving them out there on a limb to dry. I cannot understand the kind of approach they have taken.

There are two final points in this speech I want to refer to. I find it ironic. I have gone through a number of these areas. These are the last couple of pages of the speech. Here one really needs a dictionary to understand exactly what it is they are talking about.

Interjection.

**Mr. Martel:** You have disturbed the member for Cochrane North (Mr. Piché).

**Mr. Rae:** I am sorry if I disturbed the member for Cochrane North. I did not mean to disturb him.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Cousens):** Order.

**Mr. Martel:** That is about the fifth interference from the chair today, and not one on this side.

**Mr. Rae:** I appreciate seeing the Acting Speaker in the chair.

I want to quote this stuff about value for money. I want the government to hear its own words because it is important for the members to hear exactly what is being said. "While our growing population has increased the need for services, public sector employment has steadily declined and public sector wages have risen responsibly." They are describing one of the miracles of modern times.

They then go on to say that the burden of government spending and our deficit are the lowest per capita in Canada and that there has been a general increase in what they describe as productivity in the public service. We now have the Tory definition of productivity.

If a teacher is teaching 15 students, he is less productive than if he is teaching 25 students. If he is teaching 25 students, he is much more productive. If there is one children's aid worker for 40 cases, that worker is much less productive than if he had 100 cases. This productivity can only go up. With the cutbacks in education, in social services and to the public sector in general, the prospect for increase in productivity is infinite.

One could have 500 kids in a class and one would have the most productive teacher going. One could have 600 or 700 kids as wards of one children's aid worker, and he would be the most productive children's aid worker in the world. The prospect for an efficient public sector literally knows no boundaries.

**4:50 p.m.**

The government has defined productivity in such a way, and I want to congratulate it for it. It is something which defies ordinary common-sense analysis, but it is one which, nevertheless, has a certain terrifying logic to it. I see the Chairman of Management Board (Mr. McCague) is trying to come to grips with exactly what his job is. Perhaps we will better understand it when he does. I wish him well in trying to determine what it is and in working it out with Peat Marwick or whoever else is going to be telling him, perhaps the Premier, the Deputy Premier or—I am sorry the Provincial Secretary for Justice (Mr. Walker) is away—one of those real apostles of restraint. This is a real Michael Walker, hard-line, Fraser Institute, "let us get them down and dirty" approach to government spending.

When they start talking about government efficiency, let us be under no illusion about what they are talking. They are talking about less service, a worse education system and children being left in circumstances that some people might even find posing a certain problem in terms of the very quality of the service. The implications of this are very clear. A children's aid worker who has 15, 20, 25 or 30 kids is not productive, but somebody who is taking care of 100 is a productive worker in the public sector. What outrageous arithmetic. What appalling mathematics. What an approach.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** What nonsense. The member is outrageous. The speech does not say anything about that. He is making it up.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** He has no idea what he is talking about. He has nothing to say and he is making it up.

**Mr. Rae:** I say to the minister I am delighted—

**Mr. Rotenberg:** He has nothing to sell; so he makes up fiction. He has no facts at all.

**Mr. Rae:** The member should read page 27 carefully, line by line—

**Mr. Rotenberg:** You read it carefully. It says nothing about that.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order, the member for Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg).



**Mr. Rae:** He should take his time. It is turgid and difficult.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** It is very simple, but he is too simple to understand it.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order. The member for Wilson Heights has been warned.

**Mr. Rae:** Perhaps the member for Wilson Heights, whose voice is as coming from the angels, will listen for a moment.

The speech from the throne says: "While our growing population has increased the need for services, public sector employment has steadily declined and public sector wages have risen responsibly." When the government passes an iron-heeled law, as I think it was described by members of the temporary opposition over there, it is amazing how responsible people can be. When they get fined or thrown in jail if they ask for anything more, it is amazing how that makes for a responsible climate in terms of bargaining.

People have risen responsibly. What a miracle. The government passes a ukase-like piece of legislation and then turns around and says, "Look how responsible the workers of this province have been." If the government thought they were responsible, why did it introduce that kind of legislation? The government should not play games here.

The throne speech says that "public sector employment has steadily declined and public sector wages have risen responsibly. Consequently, our productivity has clearly increased..." That is what it says. That is only what it can mean. That is the mathematics of despair, and that is what this government is practising; it has produced declining quality of service and declining investment.

It goes on to say that "productivity is an ongoing responsibility and further measures will be taken to enhance the value of services for each tax dollar. Also"—as if that was not enough—"we will work closely with the agencies which receive provincial funds to consider value for money in their operations." There is nobody out there who will be free from the thoughtful, intelligent, reflective, sophisticated technique of this juggernaut. The fewer workers we have and the more things they have to do, the more productive they are. That is tremendous.

The throne speech points out that many of the expenditures are transfer payments. It says, "The autonomy enjoyed by these agencies carries with it the responsibility for effective financial and administrative stewardship through modern management practices such as value-for-money auditing."

I know I have said a lot in this House about nursing homes, and I will continue to say a lot about them, but I often wonder why the operation of the nursing homes of this province has never been subject to the same degree of scrutiny with respect to transfer payments as virtually any other recipient in the whole of the public sector. The government does not give that kind of laissez-faire to boards of education, children's aid societies, municipalities or any group, autonomous, semi-autonomous or whatever, that is receiving that extent of public funds.

To whom does it give autonomy? To whom does it say it cannot even look at the financial statements? To whom is it the former Minister of Health, now the Treasurer, said, "We are not going to require any further steps in terms of financial accountability"? The private-profit operators in the public health sector, the nursing home operators of this province, are going to be the only ones excluded from this kind of requirement and the only ones who, historically, have been left out.

I wonder what kind of value-for-money assessments they are making of the advertising they are doing? I wonder what kind of approach they are taking to see they get a genuine response to the money they are spending.

I say to you, Mr. Speaker, that of course there is an argument about the nature of the public sector and about the role of government. But I want Mr. Speaker to know this, and I know and the government knows it perfectly well. They read the Decima Research polls. We have all seen the polls that say: "People do not believe in big government any more. Therefore, if you are speaking on behalf of public expenditure, you are swimming against the tide in terms of public opinion."

It is a funny thing about public opinion. I have spoken to a lot of people across this province and they always say, "I do not like to see so much public expenditure." But then they say, "Where I work, it is a problem."

If one talks to teachers, they might say: "You are spending too much money on health care. You should be spending more on education." When one talks to people, as I have done, in management in hospitals, they say: "Gee, the money they are wasting on education is appalling. What they should be doing is focusing more money on the hospital system."

The minister knows—and everybody across the floor knows—there is a tremendous amount of support in this province for the integrity of public programs. I say to the government of this



province that it is only the rich who can afford a poor government. Yet it is a poor government we are getting today in terms of the quality of service, the investment in the future and the need to provide for all of our people. Cutbacks come with a cost.

The government may take some pride—I think it is wrong to do so—in the fact that its per capita spending is the lowest in all of Canada. It may take some pride in the fact that it has managed to starve the universities more than any other province over the last 10 years, or that in comparison with any other province it has imposed an inordinate burden on the local taxpayer with respect to education. It may take some pride in that, but I think the people of this province are going to be fed up with that approach. They are going to start saying, “Look, there are some forms of spending which are not just spending; they are an investment in our future.”

When one looks at cutbacks in education and skills training, at the failure to invest and at the failure to get involved, one is looking at a saving that is not a saving. One is looking at an enormous increase in welfare, an enormous increase in crime and a decline in opportunity. I say, with all respect, that a government which has failed, as this government has, to provide for a healthy climate of public investment, which has failed to be smart about the public investment it is making and which is failing basically to invest in the future is a government that is not worthy of the confidence of the people of this province. I think that is a very basic message.

I confess, as somebody who is baffled sometimes by public opinion polls—and some weeks are more baffling than others—that I know what the public mood is out there with respect to government programs and government expenditure. But I also say I am proud to be a member of a party that is not afraid, unlike some other parties I can think of, to say, “This is what has to be done, and we have to generate a fair tax system if we are going to do it.”

There is no magic answer to it. But if we do not generate these kinds of programs and provide this kind of opportunity, it is those less well off in our society, the average working people, the unemployed and the elderly people who will be left without services and without opportunity. That is the kind of program I am proud to support. I will support that and speak on behalf of that as long as I have a voice with which to speak.

I could not help laughing when the government said it was looking forward to supporting

the United Nations’ choice of 1985 as International Youth Year with the theme of participation, development and peace. This is what it says in the throne speech: “Those principles are the signature of a youthful heart.” This government does not have a heart—youthful, old, Geritol-like, or otherwise. Its knees are weak, its stomach has gone, its courage has departed and it is old and tired.

**5 p.m.**

I find it ironic. This is a government which is literally doddering into the 1980s and 1990s, which is attempting to revive ruling by sloth, by neglect, by polls, by advertisements, by the oldest and phoniest kinds of con games, whether in programs for women, for youth or for older workers. It is a government that does not simply not have a youthful heart; it does not even know what a heart is. It does not have a mind to play with, and it does not have legs on which to stand. That is the truth.

I have gone on at some length because, as over my political life I have studied the speeches from the throne of Liberal governments and of Tory governments, both federally and provincially, I feel very strongly there is a terrible similarity about them. It is a similarity that fundamentally is a failure to recognize that people now have higher expectations in terms of programs and performance from their politicians than they may have had in the past.

There are things that are not in the throne speech as well as things that are. I want to mention three in particular.

I talked earlier about the absence of any reform of our social security system to deal with the reality of unemployment, plant closures and what is happening out there, the changes that really are happening. There is not a single mention of the fact that accompanied by these changes has been a tremendous explosion in pure and simple poverty in Ontario.

We cannot have the number of people on unemployment insurance and welfare that we have had for as long as we have, or the low wages that have been paid to so many people for so long without having an explosion of poverty and a growth of tremendous inequality in our society.

I want to pay real tribute to the member for Scarborough West (Mr. R. F. Johnston) for the work he has done in our party in focusing attention on the issue of poverty. We are going to continue to focus attention on that issue. It will be a subject of real concern for us in the forthcoming session.



Wrapping up as quickly as I can, I also find it ironic that in addition to omitting any mention of extra billing in the Canada Health Act, the government also failed to mention the major investment decisions which it is making. Ontario Hydro; the government has given everything to Hydro. It has socked so much away to Hydro, it is spending so much on Hydro, on this unnecessary new construction at Darlington—and the Deputy Premier must know it—that it does not seem to give itself the leeway to invest in anything else.

Again, I am surprised that in the speech from the throne it would not have given a ringing endorsement of the tremendous foresight of the government of Ontario in putting literally all of its eggs, in terms of energy investment, into the nuclear project. I am surprised the government would not have pointed out that, together with the Soviet Union, the government of Ontario is ossifying its future in terms of energy growth. It is giving an energy future to this province which is about as smart as giving a body cast to a ballet dancer. It is setting our future in concrete in such a way that it is going to be very difficult for future generations to pay for, and it will live to regret it. It is a decision which is wrong, inflexible and unwise and which, even from the sheer hard economic point of view, does not make any sense.

Finally, I want to close by saying that what I find missing or absent from this speech is a sense of the future of this province. If I talk to young people today and to older people, as I have suggested, I find there is a willingness to consider not the politics of more, but the politics of different, the politics of change, genuine change, recognizing that we are in very different circumstances from the 1950s, 1960s and the 1970s, and that very different kinds of sacrifices and decisions are going to have to be made.

Our party is going to continue to put forward proposals such as the one we put forward on early retirement, on the need for work sharing, for genuine equality between men and women in the work place, for major reforms in our social security programs and on the need for new forms of investment, much more creativity in going after new forms of capital and creating new jobs. That is the sense of the future the people of the province want to see.

They are going to regret very deeply the kind of approach the government is taking; the complete absence of any sense of wanting to provide leadership, the complete absence of any sense of wanting to give real, genuine hope, a

real change of heart on the part of all of the people in the province to see that not only are sacrifices shared but also that opportunities are shared. That is not the kind of future being portrayed in the speech from the throne. That is not the kind of future which is there for a great many people.

Therefore, I would like to amend the motion that was put forward in the amendment by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday.

**The Acting Speaker:** Mr. Rae moves, seconded by Mr. Martel, that the amendment to the motion be amended by adding the following immediately before the last line:

“And further condemns the government for:

“Following the example of the Liberal government in Ottawa in cutting back on funding for social housing, education and health care programs;

“The inadequacy of its efforts in affirmative action and, in particular, its failure to require affirmative action programs for all employers of 20 or more people;

“Continuing to ignore the need for strong legislation on plant closures requiring full disclosure and public justification of closure decisions and protecting fully all workers affected;

“The continued failure of the government to provide for early retirement for older workers;

“Its failure to begin the major reform of the social security system that is needed to cope with the devastating economic changes taking place in the province, and in particular, its failure to advocate a major expansion of the public pension system in Ontario and in Canada, including the Canada pension plan;

“Its total neglect of the problem of poverty and of the need for tax reform, causing extreme hardship for growing numbers of families and individuals;

“The lack of any commitment on the part of the government to community economic development and to generating new forms of social capital for investment in job creation;

“Producing a plan for the Niagara Escarpment which completely retreats from the principle of protecting this unique resource in areas like the Beaver Valley;

“Failing to follow the example of other provinces in introducing a red meat stabilization program;

“Its failure to eliminate extra billing by doctors;

“Its failure to shift resources to a not-for-profit model in the provision of nursing home care and its refusal to require any genuine accountability



on the part of private nursing home operators for either the quality of care or the expenditure of public funds;

"Its refusal to provide for lifetime indexed pensions for nonoccupational losses such as pain and suffering resulting from compensable injuries under workers' compensation."

**5:10 p.m.**

**Mr. Treleaven:** Mr. Speaker, it gives me pleasure to make some comments on the speech from the throne. Coming after other people, one has a certain opportunity to reply.

I might say to the last speaker, although I can speak only for Oxford county in regard to youth counselling in Woodstock, the leader of the third party referred to youth counselling as being unimportant and unnecessary if there were no jobs. During the first year of operation of the Woodstock youth employment office, the majority of the young people registered were placed in jobs. If Woodstock is any indication of provincial expectations, there certainly is some real purpose in youth counselling.

Another point I would like to mention was the non sequitur the leader of the third party used in regard to the productivity argument. That is something lawyers do in court.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Do not attack lawyers, please.

**Mr. Treleaven:** He is one, although he may not have practised in court. If he examines the wording on page 27 of the throne speech, he will find he has used a non sequitur. Where it says, "Consequently, our productivity has clearly increased, much to the benefit of the public," that is quite clear. He is certainly off on a lawyer's delight. There is a crude expression lawyers use that I will not repeat in this House.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Oh, go ahead.

**Mr. Treleaven:** No, I certainly will not.

I would like to address a few remarks on two of the justice subjects referred to in the speech from the throne and on one other subject.

The viability of our justice system ultimately depends upon the degree of confidence people have in it, the level of support they are willing to give it and the degree of legitimacy they assign to its decisions. A society and a community can survive many things, but when a community comes to believe its system of justice no longer reflects its values, no longer effectively addresses its concerns, unless something is done to rectify that situation the community has taken a big step towards disintegration.

Fortunately, we are not yet faced with that situation in this province. I believe the people of Ontario still have a great deal of confidence in our justice system and a great deal of trust in our enforcement agencies and courts. I believe that confidence is justified and will be enhanced and strengthened by new initiatives in the justice policy field announced in the speech from the throne.

These initiatives directly address matters of concern to my constituents in Oxford, matters that I suspect are of concern to people all across the province. I speak here of two particular issues: the control of pornography and victim justice.

In his remarks to this House last week, my friend the member for Sudbury (Mr. Gordon) told us pornography had grown to become a \$10-billion industry in North America. As all members are well aware of the nature of some of this material, I will not dwell on just how repugnant and disgusting it is. Suffice it to say, in my view and I believe in the view of my constituents, this type of filth is morally and socially unacceptable and must be subject to some form of control.

I have always found it peculiar that in a case where some ingredient in a product is found or is even suspected to have caused cancer in rats, we immediately move to have the product removed from the shelves and the use of the suspected carcinogen banned. In most such cases we hear no complaint about the rights of the producer of the product to use that ingredient, should he choose, or the rights of the consumer willing to run the risk of cancer to purchase that product, should he so elect.

Consider the case where the product in question is hard-core pornography, a product that some evidence shows leads to violent sexual attacks on women and children—that is, assaults against women and children, not against female and young rats. Let us try to control this product—it is pornography I am referring to—a product that has perhaps caused more pain, suffering and humiliation than all the cyclamate ever used.

Some condemn us for violating rights; some argue that the link between pornography and violence has not been proven, that the evidence is not reliable. It is a peculiar thing that in the case of a substance that has even the slightest chance of causing cancer the cry goes up to have it removed from the market, but in the case of pornography some would have us wait and do nothing until we are absolutely certain this



product is causing someone some physical harm and is definitely causing attacks.

I am not prepared to wait, this government is not prepared to wait and I see no need to wait. This material is hate literature directed at an entire sex, half our population.

**Mr. Wildman:** How do you define it, though?

**Mr. Treleaven:** The definition, of course, comes in the Criminal Code under federal jurisdiction.

**Mr. Wildman:** Okay, then. You have it in the Criminal Code. What are you worried about?

**Mr. Treleaven:** It is not working, I might say to my friend the member for—

**Mr. Wildman:** Algoma.

**Mr. Treleaven:** —Algoma. It not only degrades women but also demeans a society that tolerates it.

We need not make apologies for arguing in favour of a system of control of pornography that reflects the values of our community. We need make no excuse for decency. We should also have enough confidence in our common sense to realize that we would know, and the people of the province would know, if the power of censorship were being abused.

We in this province have made an effort to exert some degree of control over the pornography trade. In 1981, for example, the Ontario Provincial Police set up Project P. Since its inception, that small unit has laid over 400 charges under the obscenity provisions of the Criminal Code; all but 40 of those charges have resulted in convictions. Four hundred is not very many with all the porn and videotapes, etc., that are coming into Ontario. There are probably 400 videotapes coming in the mail from British Columbia daily.

By stressing its support for the Ontario Board of Censors, this government has shown its determination to combat this obnoxious and poisonous social cancer. It is an effort that I believe deserves the support of all members.

Another issue involving the administration of justice that has attracted much public attention of late is the issue of victim justice. The public has grown increasingly concerned that a drastic imbalance has developed in our justice system between the rights of the accused and the rights of the victim. This has led to the feeling that the victim is actually doubly wronged. First he is the victim of the criminal, then he is victimized by the system. The pilot victim witness assistance programs, which this government has started, have proved to be useful and have helped not

only the individuals involved but the courts as well.

It is my understanding that the Attorney General has plans in place, depending on the availability of funding, to expand the witness assistance program into every county and district in Ontario. I would say to the government that the expansion of the program should be our priority in the justice policy field.

**5:20 p.m.**

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the theme of Community Justice Week in Ontario this year is "Justice for victims." This will give all of us the opportunity to make ourselves more aware of the needs of victims of crime and how those needs can best be met in our system.

The other subject I wish to address, which does not come within the justice field, is the reference in the speech from the throne to the simplification of procedures in the environmental protection field. The leader of the third party referred in his remarks to the reference in the speech from the throne to the government's intention to deal with the processes in our regulatory framework. Later, that paragraph also refers to streamlining the costly complexities of procedures now mandated by our environmental laws.

As the member for Oxford, I have seen my county struggle with the establishment of a landfill site for 13 years. Since the matter is currently before the courts and may remain there for several more years, I welcome the government's plan to seek ways of expediting the environmental protection procedures while protecting the rights of all citizens.

As municipalities grow larger, the not-in-my-backyard syndrome also increases. When municipalities were small, each looked after its own waste disposal, considering it "our garbage." I am glad to see the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt) here, actually paying some attention.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Listening.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** As are we all.

**Mr. Treleaven:** Thank you. As larger bodies became responsible for waste disposal, the view became prevalent that it was no longer "our garbage," but "their garbage." At present there is only a disadvantage to a local community or municipality becoming a site for waste disposal of a larger municipal body; there is no offsetting incentive.

I can well remember the comments of many of the residents of smaller municipalities of perhaps



3,000 or 4,000 residents when a large industry located in their township, such as Canada Cement Lafarge in the township of West Zorra. A lot of the residents said they were lucky to get it and lucky to have it because their residential taxes were approximately halved.

There was an incentive to the people of West Zorra to have that industry in their township, even though there was a certain dust problem, a noise problem and certain inconveniences. Perhaps if there were some incentive such as grants or decreased municipal taxes to the affected people, residents of local municipalities would view with greater enthusiasm the establishment of questionable developments nearby.

I commend these thoughts to the members of this Legislature. The speech from the throne demonstrates this government's commitment to progress. It has my support and, I hope, the support of all members.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you as you continue your duties in the chair, and onerous duties they are, particularly on occasion in this chamber. I know that as we go forward in the session we will probably all have the opportunity to discuss some changes in the rules of the House that we ought to be looking forward to.

As a committed Progressive Conservative when you are not serving in your impartial duties, you will realize that representatives of your party in one of the western provinces have inaugurated a new procedure which they have found extremely effective in blocking government policy. I am thinking particularly of a situation where the Progressive Conservative opposition refused to answer the call of the bell to take part in a vote. In so doing, the government was eventually persuaded to prorogue the Legislature and abandon the policy directed towards accepting French as an official language in that province.

For a person interested in the rules of parliament and in the British tradition, this must be of some substantial interest. If our traditions permit an opposition party, in this case the official opposition, not to respond for many days to the bells which are ringing to call the members to vote and make it impossible for the government to conduct its business, then it seems to me that all of us must be concerned about how we are going to conduct the orderly business of this province.

Members may recall it was the official opposition in the House of Commons in Ottawa which first embarked on this procedure. It is a

procedure which, once embarked upon, really has no end. Any opposition party, whatever its political stripe, is bound to face an occasion sooner or later when it feels that all of its armoury must be thrown into the legislative battle either in support of a position or, most usually, in objection to a position brought forward by a government.

In the case of the western province, the government had an overall majority and still its will was completely thwarted by the opposition, which refused to answer the summons of the bell.

We have discussed the possible solutions to such a continuing problem in our own House, because the same rules that have been used in the House of Commons and in Manitoba would apply here. If the government of the day—these usually reasonable, thoughtful and moderate people sitting opposite—were to bring in legislation which the opposition felt simply could not be accepted, particularly where a convincing argument could be made, then every bit of our armoury would have to be brought to bear.

I can assure members, strong argument could be made that following these now substantial precedents in the House of Commons and in the Legislature of Manitoba, one of the opposition parties would simply fail to return and answer the call of the bell. I do not know what the government could do about that other than to finally dissolve the House.

In the instance in Manitoba, that alternative was not available to the government of the day. It realized its program in this connection was basically unpopular in the province and if it were to decide the situation by dissolving the House, it would lose the government itself. So in this instance, discretion was the better part of valour or courage. It decided simply to abandon its strongly held position in support of bilingualism and the opposition carried the day.

Without getting into a discussion of the merits of the case—which comes up in this House from time to time—I would simply draw to Mr. Speaker's attention that it must be a matter of concern for anyone in this House, or even in this province, who is interested in an evolving parliamentary system. During the past 12 months, the standing committee on procedural affairs and an ad hoc group made up of the three House leaders and a few others have been trying to come to grips with a suitable solution.

Naturally, for any opposition party to give up the right not to answer the call of the bell is giving up a very strong piece of political response indeed. Normally, this could be considered only



if the government party were able to give something to put in its place.

As far as we in the Liberal Party were concerned, we felt that at least one of the areas of discussion ought to be a procedure inaugurated in this House to permit the opposition parties to order the business of a standing committee which would have investigative powers. We would not be able to do this on any and all occasions; only on specific occasions established under the rules. It would be very similar to our ability to bring forward no-confidence motions during the course of a Legislature.

Under the standing orders, the official opposition can bring forward three no-confidence motions, and a third party can bring forward two no-confidence motions; so they can select the business to be debated on those occasions.

**5:30 p.m.**

It is interesting to note that even though we have that rule, neither opposition party has used it to the full in recent years. I suppose the argument has always been that we should not use up all of our arrows in that connection in case something more important comes up towards the end of the session.

I simply refer to that because in my view it is the sort of precedent that could have been used with the agreement of the government party to allow a process whereby matters that require some investigative review by a standing committee could be sent to these committees with the understanding that the opposition would order its business for at least a limited period of time.

We got to the point where we worked out the hours and the comparative rights between the official opposition and the third party. It seemed to be a very fair and equitable procedure.

The one instance which I thought was a very good example was the trust companies matter. Members may recall during the last session there was a considerable discussion about the administration of trust company regulations and legislation, and while we had an opportunity to question the minister in the House about this matter, we did not have a process whereby we could refer the matter to a committee where officials of the ministry could be summoned before the committee and be required to give evidence. We were up against a stone wall there.

If the process I had put forward as an alternative to our rules had been in effect, it would have been the right of the opposition to send the matter to a committee for a hearing of something like eight or 10 hours with the right to call witnesses. Obviously the government party

did not want that to happen and, as a matter of fact, they successfully stopped it.

On the other hand, one must bear in mind that it is our responsibility in this House to use the rules as effectively as we can to achieve the aims that we think are worth while. The aim of having a full and public discussion of areas of policy that might be, God forbid, embarrassing to the government of the day is an obvious part of what we consider our duty.

We were thwarted in having any change in the rules accepted in that connection. It is obvious that members of the cabinet council were not prepared to accept that additional responsibility to defend their actions as the holders of the seals of government in the various portfolios.

We are not prepared to give up our right to impede or even stop the business of the House on occasions where we feel it is necessary or even essential.

I simply put this before the Speaker or anybody else who is interested in it. It is simply a matter of time—far distant time, I would hope—until this House grinds to a stop, using the precedents now established in the House of Commons and the Legislature of Manitoba. In both instances, the Speakers have established a precedent that I presume will be followed by the Speaker in this chamber.

I could not imagine that, without concurrence on all sides, a procedure would be accepted. If anybody wants to take thought ahead of time to avert such a situation, surely we ought to be in a position where, through the procedural affairs committee or an ad hoc group, we could come to some agreement that would enable us to order our business here in a more effective and useful way than we have in the past.

I also want to take a few moments of the time available to me during this debate to briefly describe a trip I took in recent weeks in response to an invitation by an ad hoc committee of this House known as the Ontario Legislature Committee on Soviet Jewry. It has three chairpersons who share the responsibility for informing members of the House of the situation affecting members of the Jewish community in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which is of great interest and concern to members of this House either directly or in response to interests expressed by our constituents.

The member for Wilson Heights, who is one of the co-chairmen of the group, approached me in February and said the committee was interested in organizing a group that would travel to the USSR to meet members of the Jewish com-



munity in that country who had applied for visas to emigrate from the USSR, in most instances to join their families in Israel. In most of these circumstances in recent months and years, the visa applications had been rejected by the Soviet authorities.

These people, who are normally called refuseniks by themselves and others, had found themselves in very difficult circumstances in their own nation. As citizens of the Soviet Union, they felt they had the right to apply to emigrate from their country under the Helsinki agreement on civil rights, particularly to move to their homeland, Israel, and in many instances to complete the family circle when members of their family had already left the USSR and other countries to take up permanent residence and make a home in Israel.

As a matter of fact, during the latter years of the leadership of Comrade Brezhnev, the First Secretary of the Communist Party, emigration was quite free. During the middle 1970s, as many as 50,000 Soviet citizens a year were allowed to emigrate to Israel. With the death of Brezhnev and the ascendance of Comrade Andropov, the matter changed quite dramatically.

It is difficult to determine what prompted this change other than the fact that Mr. Andropov had in his political background the leadership of the secret service of the Soviet Union, the KGB. When he became ruler of the nation, as First Secretary of the Communist Party, he placed his colleagues from the KGB in positions of leadership, direction and importance in the other police services and in other parts of the administration of the nation.

It may have been his personal attitude or it may have been a collective decision that the emigration of Jews from the USSR should definitely be restricted. It was restricted to the point that last year just a few more than 100 were allowed to leave the country. This meant there were between 40,000 and 50,000 individuals who had applied for emigration visas and had been refused.

In many instances, this refusal was accompanied by very stringent repression of the individuals and their families. We talked directly to refuseniks who had been fired from their jobs on the day of their application and whose sons and daughters had not been allowed to continue their higher education. There were all sorts of instances of harassment that were almost unbelievably difficult to comprehend.

I will not take the time of the House to refer in detail to individuals we met other than to say that our group, which had more or less been put together by the Ontario Legislature Committee on Soviet Jewry—and I will talk a bit more about that group in a moment—had the pleasure, and certainly the very interesting experience, of meeting about 35 individuals, often with members of their families, in the cities of Moscow and Leningrad as well as Riga in the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic.

The reception we got from the refuseniks was uniformly very good. I should say as well that while we had been warned the officials of the USSR might be less than enthusiastic about our purpose, there was no occasion when we were overtly interfered with in any way.

**Mr. Stokes:** I thought they took some tapes from you.

**Mr. Nixon:** I am going to say something about that. They would have taken those tapes from anybody trying to smuggle them into the nation. I say that with some levity because the tapes my honourable friend refers to were taken from a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation program by none other than Stephen Lewis himself, that great democratic socialist, who had been author and spokesman for an excellent program on the Holocaust. It was thought that four tapes involving this program might very well be taken in for the utilization of anyone who might be interested in hearing them.

**5:40 p.m.**

When I was going through customs at the airport in Moscow, all my belongings were very carefully searched, if the members can imagine such a procedure, and among—

**Mr. Stokes:** Not your person, just your belongings.

**Mr. Nixon:** They stopped at that; they showed very good judgment, too.

When they found these tapes, they very politely indicated to me that it would not be possible to take them into the Soviet Union. I remember the words of the official well. He said, "Would it unduly inconvenience you"—I thought it was a nice way to put it—"if we asked you to leave these tapes in our possession until you leave the country 11 days from now?" He was so polite and so friendly in that connection that, of course, I said, "I do not know how I am going to get along without Stephen Lewis's tapes for the next 11 days, but there they are."

Just as a footnote to a footnote, I should say that when I was leaving the country 11 days later,



I pursued the officer who had taken them away from me but, unfortunately, he was not on duty. Although I had all sorts of official-looking documents that I was flapping around in front of everybody's noses, the only response I got was "nyet," whatever that means, and I did not get the tapes.

To get back to the point, there were those who, particularly before we left on the trip, were saying, "Of course, others who have gone this route have been followed by officers of the KGB, or by some other officials or by a surveillance group, and you may well be harassed in your travels." Such was not our experience. It may have been that all they had to do was look at our group to realize we were innocuous. There are those who would be quick to say that.

I can certainly tell the members that the trip was worth while in many respects. The aim of the trip was to visit the refuseniks, to listen to their stories, to try to elicit from them some response that we might have, either officially or unofficially, in this Legislature or in this community. I want to say something about that before I conclude my remarks.

It is interesting to note that some of the refuseniks had been arrested, tried and convicted for crimes against the Soviet state. In most instances, the crime was the teaching of the Hebrew language and the Jewish culture to small groups of young people who would gather in individual homes. This is illegal in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for reasons that are not apparent to anybody, but must be valid for them. In many instances, upon conviction these people would be transported thousands of kilometres to work camps in Siberia. Their hard-labour conviction would normally be followed by a lengthy period of exile in cities well removed from their families.

I should say—and this was brought to our attention by the refuseniks themselves—that the judicial system applies the law and a sentence is handed down which, I understand, is appealable, but eventually is enforced. At least the sentence is determinate. We met some people who had served their sentences and returned to their families.

We had an opportunity to talk not only to the refuseniks, but to other Russian citizens about their lifestyles. I had my eyes opened considerably. Moscow, Leningrad and Riga are magnificent cities which are well kept. The people on the streets are well clothed, are certainly healthy looking and when we had an opportunity to get

past the normal reserve, we found them friendly and interested in what we had to say.

Another footnote is that many of the people we met could speak three or four languages. We, as citizens of Canada, having been educated in the marvellous province of Ontario where the Minister of Education keeps telling us we have one of the best systems in the world, were unilingual at best. I always feel embarrassed when this occurs. Of course, I have only myself to blame for lack of application. The Minister of the Environment, however, having much more of a political commitment and being upwardly mobile instead of being like myself, is probably taking French lessons because he never knows when he is going to need them.

As I say, this is a footnote. I continue to be impressed at the education systems of most other countries in the world, with the exception of the United States, which has the same plague we have in a narrow-minded approach to language education. Wherever we went in the Soviet Union, there were people who could speak to us in our language, at least to some extent. I found that impressive.

I should say also that the cities themselves were, without exception, very clean and well served by public transportation. In the instance of Moscow in particular, I felt there were some perquisites for the members of the government that would make even members of the Tory party front benches here blush, because their cars are much bigger than the modest Oldsmobile 98s and super Chryslers that these people drive. Not everybody has a Zil, but I would think if the Minister of Labour, who seems to be paying some attention, ever got a look at one of those Zils, he would have one imported for his personal use without delay. They are enormous, gorgeous, black limos, the type of car which only the Mafia drive in this jurisdiction.

There is one thing they do have that perhaps the Minister of Health (Mr. Norton) might be interested in. They have curtains over the back window and along the windows at the side. I would be damned if I knew what went on in there, but perhaps the ministers of the government would be able to enlighten me. There is a driver in the front, one of the comrades—everybody is equal in that country—with an electric window separating him from whatever is happening in the back.

What I thought the members opposite might be interested in—the cabinet ministers here in Ontario—is that in the wide streets of the capital of Moscow the fast lane is reserved for govern-



ment cars. I thought perhaps that was an idea the ministers might like to fool around with. The senior members of the government do not even have to stop at the red lights. An officer is there, no doubt warned ahead by radio, and he is tootling away on his whistle, and God help a person if he does not get out of the way because the speed limits do not apply to those people either. It is very impressive. I feel the government of the day here in Ontario is moving rapidly in that direction.

The Kremlin itself, the seat of government, is open to tourists. We were not allowed to go in through the Spasskaya gate, through which only the members of the politburo go in these cars. It is quite interesting for an ordinary person, a little guy from Brant county, to stand there by the side of the road and watch these senior members of the government streaming into the Kremlin in order to carry out their duties.

Interjection.

**Mr. Nixon:** It is not Shawinigan. As a person who likes to drive myself, the part that really impressed me was their complete independence of any of the rules of the road having to do with speed. I should say that caught my attention; there is no doubt about it.

Also, it is apparent there are certain stores that are available only to senior members of the government. Very near our hotel was one of these stores where, in the afternoon, the government limousines would be parked outside while the ladies of the senior communist households went in to get the groceries for the next little while.

I spoke about the people being well dressed. I really did have that impression. One thing everybody has is a gorgeous fur hat. It is pretty cold over there, although during the time of our visit, just two or three weeks ago, the temperatures were much milder than they were here. We are quite used to going out without hats in cold weather, being virile men of the north as we all are, but if one goes out without his hat in Moscow, it is almost like going out without one's pants from the way people look at one, as if they are thinking: "What is that person doing? He must be crazy. Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the cold without their hats."

**5:50 p.m.**

The hotel accommodation was uniformly good. As a matter of fact, the buildings looked as though they had been modelled after Sutton Place where I hang out myself on occasion, when I can scrape together the \$92.50 for overnight—that is with movie.

The hotels were generally built on that basis, but I found that their television was a bit restricted. They have three channels in colour, and I saw several interesting programs involving how to prune an apple tree. I took careful notes because that is the sort of thing where language does not interpose itself; there is no difficulty there in picking out the nodes, the branches and the dichotomy.

I do not want to drive all my friends out of here before adjournment, but I should mention the food. There is certainly no shortage of food as long as one likes sturgeon and chicken, and fortunately I like them both. Actually, they have excellent Russian champagne. It is not as dry as I am used to, but when one is eating a lot of caviar, one has to have something to wash it down.

Interjection.

**Mr. Nixon:** Well, after all, we had heavy responsibilities assigned to us by the committee chaired by our colleagues. But there has to be a time when one recharges one's batteries, particularly when one is working hard and listening to the comments made by people whose concerns one is sent there to respond to. I guess it is time I got back to that and stopped rambling about some of my personal observations.

Perhaps just before I leave my personal observations, I should say we did have an opportunity to visit some exceptionally fine museums of art. My own experience, formed, I suppose, by visits to many of the major capitals of the world, is that the Hermitage museum in Leningrad is probably the finest museum on earth.

It was interesting to note when we were doing some reading before this that when the revolutionaries burst into the Winter Palace in 1917 and started rushing through the rooms, which had been furnished by Catherine the Great and her predecessors and successors, some of them started grabbing valuable golden objects and art pieces. The local story goes that one of the revolutionaries got to the top of the steps and started yelling out, "These belong to the people." The cry was picked up and down the great corridors, halls and galleries of the palace and everything was put back. As I understand it, everything is still there the way it was in 1917.

I should report as well that in most instances these great palaces and buildings that the government had decided should be maintained are very well maintained indeed. The Hermitage itself, partly made up of the Winter Palace and the rest of the structures, is in very good shape. It is an extremely beautiful building and certainly is



a great source of pride to the Russian people. It is something everybody should visit if he ever has the chance. The same is true of the museums in Moscow.

It is difficult to determine what we can do to alleviate the problems the refuseniks are experiencing at present. In each case we asked them with as great attention as we possibly could and we listened to their answers, and they varied to a considerable degree. Some of them felt the very fact we had visited them, know them personally by name and know their phone numbers and addresses—and I intend to communicate when I can—is in some sense an insurance policy that they will not be accused on trumped-up charges of crimes against the state. They felt this at least was valuable. They also feel, of course, that an interest in their plight by anyone in the western world is at least of some value to them.

Of course, they cannot apply to leave the country unless they have a direct invitation from another country that is prepared to take them. In most instances they want to go to Israel, but it is difficult for them to engineer and arrange for a proper invitation, which must come fresh in all respects every six months so that their application to leave the USSR remains valid. One can imagine the elaborate paperwork and difficulty that entails. We may be able to be of some assistance to them.

My own feeling is that the only good thing which could happen in the future would be for us somehow to return to detente. The degeneration of the relationships between East and West, essentially between the USA and the USSR, is greatly to be regretted.

I do not know what we in this House can do about it. I know the blame lies on both sides; so there is no point in us trying to lay the blame. If Reagan says something bad, the USSR and its leadership will respond with something worse. If a sabre is rattled on this side, a cannon is loaded on the other side.

If there is a lesson there, it is that we should start thinking of the so-called East as being equal in all respects to the so-called West. Their hopes for peace are as valid and as strong among the people we talked to as our own. Yet their

response to warlike behaviour on this side is just as bristly and as aggressive as our own response to a warlike stance from the East. As long as we treat them, in our own minds, on a different, and perhaps lower level than our own, I do not believe detente, as such, is going to have a chance.

I was not a great fan of President Carter, but at least his attention to human rights and civil liberties and his consummate effort at least to have a policy that would lead to detente must deserve our respect.

**Mr. Stokes:** How do they justify Afghanistan?

**Mr. Nixon:** I do not know whether Afghanistan can be justified any more than Vietnam or Grenada. If they start throwing eggs at each other, there is plenty of ammunition.

As a matter of fact, I heard somebody say there is some concern about the increased influence of the Muslim population in government and in the population demography of the USSR. We would wonder why they would be concerned about that, but one story is that they are concerned about it.

Afghanistan had a communist government, but it evidently had Muslim approaches to policy that somebody in Moscow did not like. Somebody thought it was worth going in and adjusting the government so they did. It was an oppressive invasion and continues to be. There are people in Afghanistan who are heroic fighters against this invasion. That is something that is going on.

Our response was to not go to the Olympics in Moscow. Frankly, I regret that, but this was the policy enunciated by the leader of our country and by the leaders of the United States and other countries. We may have a certain feeling of regret now. Yet experts say that in these negotiations a threat must be opposed with a threat or strength.

It is almost six o'clock and I have only covered my subject very superficially. I would like to continue on a later occasion.

On motion by Mr. Nixon, the debate was adjourned.

The House recessed at 5:59 p.m.

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Brandt, Hon. A. S., Minister of the Environment (Sarnia PC)  
Breagh, M. J. (Oshawa NDP)  
Breithaupt, J. R. (Kitchener L)  
Conway, S. G. (Renfrew North L)  
Copps, S. M. (Hamilton Centre L)  
Cousens, D., Deputy Chairman and Acting Speaker (York Centre PC)  
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Davis, Hon. W. G., Premier (Brampton PC)  
Epp, H. A. (Waterloo North L)  
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Riddell, J. K. (Huron-Middlesex L)  
Roy, A. J. (Ottawa East L)  
Stephenson, Hon. B. M., Minister of Education and Minister of Colleges and Universities (York Mills PC)  
Stokes, J. E. (Lake Nipigon NDP)  
Swart, M. L. (Welland-Thorold NDP)  
Timbrell, Hon. D. R., Minister of Agriculture and Food (Don Mills PC)  
Treleaven, R. L. (Oxford PC)  
Turner, Hon. J. M., Speaker (Peterborough PC)  
Welch, Hon. R. S., Deputy Premier, Minister responsible for Women's Issues and Minister of Energy (Brock PC)  
Wells, Hon. T. L., Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Scarborough North PC)  
Wildman, B. (Algoma NDP)  
Wrye, W. M. (Windsor-Sandwich L)









# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Tuesday, March 27, 1984  
Evening Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Tuesday, March 27, 1984

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

## INTERIM SUPPLY

Hon. Mr. Grossman moved, seconded by Hon. F. S. Miller, resolution 1:

That the Treasurer of Ontario be authorized to pay the salaries of the civil servants and other necessary payments pending the voting of supply for the period commencing April 1, 1984, and ending June 30, 1984, such payments to be charged to the proper appropriation following the voting of supply.

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, I want to offer a few random observations on government motion 1.

**Mr. Martel:** What does that really mean?

**Mr. Conway:** What does that really mean? It is a good question that my friend the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) raises. I hope in the next few minutes to help him understand. I see my friend the member for Port Arthur (Mr. Foulds) here. I know he is anxious to have his day in court, so to speak. I do not want to keep him beyond any necessary amount of time.

It is good to be back. It is good to see our friend the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) here early in the session looking for additional sums. I am sure my friend the member for Elgin (Mr. McNeil) is as anxious as I am not to stand in the Treasurer's way, the insatiable maw he presides over there—\$25 billion or thereabouts, I understand, for this year.

By the way, I see the member for Elgin and I am pleased to see he is in seat 1. He should be congratulated for that. I think that is where all former Liberals on the Progressive Conservative side ought finally to come to rest. I am glad to see the distinguished member for Elgin occupying his rightful place in that respect. I see the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) offering some advice.

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** I was not offering advice, I was getting it.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** No thanks, Frank, let's take a pass.

**Mr. Conway:** I am prepared to accept that as an offer of goodwill. I just hope I do not have to wait too many years.

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** It is 25.

**Mr. Conway:** Is it 25? I think it is actually 27, is it not? No, it is 26.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now to the motion.

**Mr. Conway:** Now to the motion. After three months in the hardwood hills and pine valleys of Renfrew North, I am back and I am a little rusty. I have to get a little more of this legislative air.

I saw the member for Sudbury East staring at me from the pages of the Toronto tabloid this morning. Did anybody see that picture of the member? One of the cynical Liberals thought it was not possible to get a picture of the member with his mouth closed. Hence we were treated to a full view of his teeth.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** I raised that issue.

**Mr. Conway:** I am reminded it was the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid) who raised that issue.

**Mr. Nixon:** Originally.

**Mr. Conway:** Originally. I would not want to be—

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** A fellow by the name of McMurtry had a one-man royal commission on it.

**Mr. Conway:** I understand the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) is just back from a tour of Cochrane North. In the presence of the Treasurer, might I wonder aloud what the Attorney General is campaigning for or is about in the distant reaches of Cochrane North? I thought he was out of this race, but perhaps there is a seat in northeastern Ontario that looks more promising than St. Paul's or Eglinton-Lawrence.

We are asked to come here to vote the Treasurer additional sums to pay the provincial public service and for such other appropriations as he will require. As a supporter of the public service in this great province, I would not now or ever wish to be put in the position of denying members of the public service, containing, as it does, even a few of my relatives, their pay at the end of the month.

**Mr. Wildman:** Is that a declaration of conflict of interest?

**Mr. Conway:** No. I want my friend from Algoma to know that it is not a declaration of conflict of interest.



During the recess, I was reading the speeches at the Empire Club of Canada. I was struck by one that reminded me of the politics of William Davis's Ontario. I really recommend to the members of the House a speech called "The Authority of Learning" by Northrop Frye, that distinguished academic from Victoria College, University of Toronto, to the Empire Club in January 1984.

I am going to quote apropos this particular motion—I am not exactly sure, but I thought it was a good observation the distinguished Professor Frye offered the Empire Club about our political situation.

"People need political and social leaders who can define policies, articulate problems and express the aims and ideals of their society for those who cannot express them for themselves, though they may feel them very deeply. But the evidence is overwhelming that voters in a democracy want and expect bumble and burble from their leaders and seem to be disturbed, if not upset, by the impact of articulate speech."

In this the week of the throne speech, I want to share that with, among others, my friend the member for St. Andrew-St. Patrick (Mr. Grossman), soon to be just the member for St. Patrick, if at all—

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** St. Andrew.

**Mr. Conway:** St. Andrew, if at all.

**Mr. McClellan:** Why don't you run in St. George?

**Mr. Conway:** There is an idea.

**Mr. Conway:** If I might digress, somebody asked me the other day what chances I thought the preliminary proposals of the Ontario Electoral Boundaries Commission had for passage. I said that one need only look at the future and the fate of St. Andrew-St. Patrick to understand why these proposals will fly like Icarus. They are not going to get far, I suspect, and there are more than a few of us around here who are counting on the Treasurer to use his not inconsiderable influence to ensure those proposals are amended in the direction of democracy and common sense.

I somehow think my friend the member for St. Andrew-St. Patrick knows exactly what I intend and, if nothing else, he might talk to our mutual friend the member for Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg), who I hear is more than a little exercised about what those proposals intend for him.

8:10 p.m.

I want to say in the presence of the Treasurer, about whom I must say I keep hearing more and more—every time I go to Canada Post I meet another one of the honourable member's friends and former staff assistants.

**Mr. Mitchell:** Are you buying from Consumers Distributing?

**Mr. Conway:** No, as a matter of fact, for the member for Carleton (Mr. Mitchell), I am not. I am on record as having said something rather to the contrary.

About this motion, one of the concerns I have in these tough days of restraint is that the Treasurer not come here and expect me and others to vote additional sums so that he and many of his ministerial friends can continue to travel at a rather rapid rate, if I might suggest it. During the holidays, something was made of the fact that Mr. Speaker led a delegation to an important Commonwealth parliamentary responsibility in some far distant clime. I understand a full accounting has been given of that.

I liked the reports that said the member for Cambridge (Mr. Barlow) was a Liberal. I do not know what is going on in Cambridge but I read that and wondered whether, as he got closer to the equator, he began to have a lapse of judgement, as the Treasurer says.

I thought it would be interesting and perhaps useful to review the travels of the honourable members opposite over the winter recess. They have been a very busy bunch. I am sure there was a lot said around Peterborough about the Speaker and the parliamentary committee going off to do their good works in Barbados, as reported by the local press.

Listen to what restraint has done to the travel plans of ministers opposite over the course of the winter recess. The Premier (Mr. Davis), as we all saw on our television, was in London doing good works with the Stratford production. I do not think anybody could quarrel with that.

**Mr. Nixon:** He did not ask us to go along.

**Mr. Conway:** I know he was over there on a private—I understand he was in London to—

Interjection.

**Mr. Conway:** Well, the member for Perth (Mr. Edighoffer) has nothing to apologize for. His support of that great—

**Mr. Nixon:** He is the father of the festival.

**Mr. Conway:** The member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon) says he is the father of the festival. Who am I to quarrel with that.

Frankly, I understand the Premier was really there on a private mission to see if he could talk



Ross DeGeer out of giving up the sinecure he has enjoyed for these past five years, to make way for either the government House leader (Mr. Wells) or the Minister of Industry and Trade. Rumour has it they are prepared to leave before the next election. In the words of the member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy), they are both saying in the private corridors of Torydom over there, "Step aside, we are coming through." They have to get Ross packed and on his way home.

Speaking of the Minister of Industry and Trade, he has just returned from a 16-day trip to Munich, Paris and London. I believe he was—

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Is he trying to get a better price on bookmarks?

**Mr. Conway:** The member for Rainy River says the minister has been trying to find a better price for his bookmarks. I do not know. I know the minister is likely to want to travel as much as he possibly can before he gives up the ministerial responsibility, which I understand will be within the next three to six months.

The real competition is in who is going to get London. Is it going to be the member for Scarborough North (Mr. Wells) or is it going to be the member for Muskoka (Mr. F. S. Miller)? The decision has to be made within the next three to six months. There are other prizes, we know that, but I understand that is a significant—

**Mr. McClellan:** Surely there are more candidates than those two.

**Mr. Conway:** There are other candidates, but I understand the chairman of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board is not yet prepared to step aside to allow someone else in the family to have the opportunity to serve in that connection.

To be fair to the member for Muskoka—I think I have always been fair to him—I understand he travelled what he called ordinary jetliner across the Atlantic, unlike the Treasurer, the man with the whip over there who has been cracking it on as many backs as he can find; to his credit he did not travel the Atlantic Concorde style. I think he ought to be commended for showing at least that much restraint. If I am wrong in that respect, he can perhaps correct the record.

Our friend the Treasurer's ally, the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell), who has not been around the House a great deal before today, was off in London as well at what was billed as a corn seminar. The rest of us were at work—

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** That is where the Minister of Industry and Trade should have been.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** You were here at the same seminar.

**Mr. Conway:** It was a lot cheaper to keep me at the corn seminar in old Upper Canada than it appears to have been to send the Minister of Agriculture and Food to London to a corn seminar.

Then he left, of course, to cross paths with the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) in Bahrain. The Persian Gulf is occupying a lot of interest and time and resources there, and I just wonder why we are not booking a more permanent presence there, since most of that front bench has been to Bahrain.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Now we are moving the embassy.

**Mr. Conway:** That is the New York primary.

The Minister of Health (Mr. Norton) was not to be outdone. He was travelling around central Europe understanding how the Swiss, the Germans and the French deliver health care services.

Where do we find the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow) in the recent break? He was in Saudi Arabia. The Solicitor General (Mr. G. W. Taylor) was in Paris and in Washington, I am told.

The Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt) was in West Germany and the Netherlands. As for the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Ashe), one had only to look at him last week to see that he had been someplace other than Durham West; he was down discharging important responsibilities in Nassau.

The Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Mr. Wells), like the Minister of the Environment, was in West Germany. The Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) was also in the Persian Gulf, in Kuwait, to be specific.

**Mr. Nixon:** Those guys are far worse than the federal Liberals.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** What do your public opinion polls tell you about this that we do not know?

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** Where was the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk?

**Mr. Nixon:** Not at public expense.

**Mr. Conway:** I think the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk makes a good point, because travel is not to be frowned upon in any respect.

**Mr. Nixon:** It is broadening.

**Mr. Conway:** It builds character, it widens horizons—

Interjection.

**Mr. Conway:** It may be. I remember that experience very well, not the least of the reasons



being that I paid the freight, unlike these people who have been travelling in style.

**Mr. Nixon:** Right. That is the essential difference.

**Mr. Conway:** There is a difference, as the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk points out.

I am glad, as we come tonight to vote additional funds, that we have the interest and the presence of the Chairman of Management Board (Mr. McCague). I have not seen him this aroused since he was last in Wasaga Beach.

I have a certain personal respect for the member for Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. McCague) and—let us leave it at that—liking, but I have to wonder. Am I being asked in this particular motion to commit additional resources so that another minister over there is going to be in the unhappy condition of the Chairman of Management Board? I ask the Treasurer, are we, in this twilight of restraint, going to be asked through this motion to vote \$290,000 for, let us say, the member for Wentworth (Mr. Dean) to discover what his ministerial responsibilities are all about?

**8:20 p.m.**

I have to feel that there is no little bit of embarrassment across the way felt by everyone, including the Chairman of Management Board, that in a public place in recent days he has had to stand up and say, "I am going to commit an expenditure in excess of \$250,000 in this period of restraint so outside consultants can come to me, analyse me and my good works and tell me and my peers in cabinet what it is I am supposed to be doing."

There is more than a little evidence of the fact that the Chairman of Management Board of Cabinet does not appear to know what it is about, as we saw in the public accounts committee particularly through late 1983 and as has been continued on in early 1984. Is that what we are being asked by the Treasurer to come, to consider and to vote appropriations for?

If no one else could give direction to the Chairman of Management Board, I would like to think the Treasurer, in the best Darcy McKeough tradition, would delineate for the more junior ministers of his Treasury bench exactly what it is they are supposed to be doing or at least what he expects them to do.

I hear from my Tory friends around the province that the one thing they like about this Treasurer is that he emanates a certain sense of competence, toughness and direction. On that score, they say the Treasurer is a more desirable option than the Minister of Agriculture and Food, who seems to be in perennial pursuit of another

advisory committee. They say our friend the Treasurer has a sense of toughness, firmness and direction.

If that is the Treasurer's reputation among his circle, then surely he would want to take the Chairman of Management Board aside and say, "No, I am not going to allow 300,000 scarce dollars to be allocated so we can discover what it is you are supposed to do." Surely the Treasurer would want to agree with most reasonable observers of the scene that we have a set of government guidelines.

We have the November 16, 1983, letter of the Premier, which was a helpful elucidation, or so we were told last fall by the Premier himself, for understanding the intent of these spending controls and accounting practices. Surely it remains only for someone who is paid \$75,000 by the secretariat in support of himself to see to it that there is enforcement.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** They are the best in the world, but can they be better?

**Mr. Conway:** The Chairman of Management Board says they are "the best in the world." I can only say to the minister that I was there last fall taking a personal interest in one case study of how it was that those "best in the world" guidelines were followed by some very senior people in the government.

I am going to tell the minister without too much partisan prejudice that it was a sad and worrisome spectacle. We appear to have created a set of conditions whereby senior civil servants who were mandated with the responsibility to enforce these "best in the world" guidelines did not fully understand what these "best in the world" guidelines involved and how they might be enforced. Most important was that when they stood in violation of same, somehow they were supposed to tell on themselves.

Members do not have to take my word for it. They simply have to look at the findings of the Provincial Auditor.

I say to the Treasurer and his junior partner, the Chairman of Management Board, that is simply not good enough. I cannot believe, given the players involved in that secretariat who are not foolish or apparently incompetent people, that we could have come to such a sad and sorry spectacle as we witnessed in late 1983. To say those are the best and brightest guidelines available is to say nothing in the light of that recent experience.

One of the problems we have on this side of the House is watching the universe unfold as it does. I was not particularly involved in the Astra/Re-



Mor business of 1980, but I was around to hear the minister of the day say a problem of a reasonably serious nature had occurred, but not to worry; it could not and would not happen again because we had a new, intricate system of red flags around to indicate where the trouble might occur and how it might be dealt with under those conditions.

I know the Treasurer will know a lot about this, because unlike those of us over here, he sat as the minister responsible for that operation for a period of 13 months, or whatever it was, back in the early days of his meteoric rise.

I simply say to the members opposite, including the Chairman of Management Board, of what account is it to say these are the best rules and the best guidelines when we saw then that nothing much had changed? A bigger fish entered the pond and cleaned up in about three weeks, or even less, if my memory serves me correctly. It certainly did not instil any confidence in me.

I am sure, if my friend from Woodstock were honest—I should not say “honest,” as he is always honest, but candid—he would want to agree with me that whole episode did not raise confidence, either in this assembly or in the public beyond, that those good provisions really protected much of the public interest. Now we are left with the hope that the present Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (Mr. Elgie) will do what our friend the member for London South (Mr. Walker) was clearly incapable of doing.

The Chairman of Management Board says, “I am going to get Price Waterhouse and the Canada Consulting Group in, and we are going to devise better ways and means of implementation.” Given the government’s past practice, given that we have some 82,000 public servants in this province, if my memory—

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** We have 80,000 public servants.

**Mr. Conway:** The minister tells me it is 80,000. I will accept his assessment. He pays the bills directly, not I.

I have to wonder why we are going outside the public service and spending \$300,000 to bring people in to tell this ever-increasing Treasury bench what it is supposed to be doing. It may be useful just to note the fact that it is ever-increasing. I never cease to be amazed that it just gets bigger and bigger.

It is quite obvious some are much more important than others. Notwithstanding the expectant grin on the face of the member for Carleton East (Mr. MacQuarrie), those who are

on the front row of this Treasury bench have responsibilities to see to it that they discharge the function for which they have been paid and to which they have been elevated.

**8:30 p.m.**

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The cabinet is smaller than it was.

**Mr. Conway:** I want to see the data that support the contention that the cabinet is smaller than it was.

Over the course of the recent recess, I read an article by a distinguished commentator on public affairs, the son of a distinguished former member of this assembly and, as I understand it, the man who is prepared to be nominated in the interests of the national Progressive Conservative Party somewhere in the western reaches of this metropolitan community, Mr. J. Patrick Boyer.

Not too long ago, Mr. Boyer wrote an interesting article in *Business Quarterly* under the caption “Viewpoint.” It was headed “Government Advertising: Some Wheat, Too Much Chaff.” It is interesting reading, because one of the areas of government expenditure in recent years that has been quite impressive in terms of the rate of increase is government advertising.

In my part of the province one can scarcely travel a mile without being reminded that Alan Pope is the Minister of Natural Resources. I see the Minister of the Environment has just taken a seat over there. He is doing his part in spending our money advertising himself and all his good works.

I just noticed in the mail the other day we got *Environment Ontario Legacy*, volume 12, numbers 1 and 2, winter 1983-84. No second-rater is the Minister of the Environment. We are treated to quite a spectacular array of colour photographs in this publication, the circulation of which I have some wonder about. I must say, however, nothing but the best is good enough for the minister.

The Treasurer might tell the workers of Etobicoke and Kapuskasing that they should work through their lunch break, but nobody is going to tell the Minister of the Environment that he ought not to have seven colour photographs of himself on the front pages of *Environment Ontario Legacy*.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: In the interest of accuracy, the honourable member should mention that the photographs are of projects related to the Ministry of the Environment and are not specifically related to, nor do they identify, the individuals in the pictures.



The member, who is trying to imply that there is some self-aggrandizement going on, is totally misleading this House. I would only suggest that if he were to take a very careful look at those pictures, he would see that each and every picture identified on the cover of *Legacy* is fundamental to the progress and the prosperity of this province.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I must rule that is not a point of order and there is nothing out of order.

**Mr. Conway:** I just want to say, as we come together tonight to respond to the Treasurer's invitation to give him more money, we have a right as members of this assembly to ask where the money is going and how is it being spent, in view of the restraint injunction of this government: "Tighten your belt. Toughen up. Spend sparingly instead of lavishly."

**Mr. Martel:** You have no idea what Bernier is doing, though. He sends framed pictures of himself and the person he is with to everyone.

**Mr. Conway:** My friend the member for Sudbury East reminds me of the conduct of the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier), the governor of new Ontario, but I cannot speak with his degree of knowledge and accuracy. I just happened to pick up, on the way in tonight, *Environment Ontario Legacy*, volume 12. This is the legacy of the Treasurer. I have not seen such a shameless, multicoloured display of ministerial performance since I last read a publication of the Treasurer.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** That is gross exaggeration. You are having another one of your flights of fantasy.

**Mr. Conway:** I do not mean to denigrate in any way the talents of the Minister of the Environment, a man who I understand is picking up the pace in the race. But lest the Minister of the Environment forget himself, in the days before the member for Wilson Heights had exclusive control over who appeared on *Metro Morning*, I remember this minister in his days as a private member. I can remember some private chats at the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. in Toronto about the enthusiasm the new member for Sarnia (Mr. Brandt) had in letting people know he was around.

If we are talking about government spending and about government advertising, we might wonder about the need in this day and age for this kind of publication to begin with and the gloss and toss of it all when it is made public.

**An hon. member:** Larry is taking notes.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** You are right. I just changed my vote.

**Mr. Conway:** I just wanted to say it was a good opportunity for me to lead into Mr. Boyer's comments in "Government Advertising: Some Wheat, Too Much Chaff."

I have the feeling that since we have entered the fourth year of our mandate, we are going to see more advertising rather than less in the next 12 months. Maybe I am wrong; maybe there is not going to be what we witnessed in 1976-77 or 1980-81, but maybe history is going to be repeated.

Mr. Boyer in his observations to the readers of the *Business Quarterly* had some interesting things to say about the Ontario Progressive Conservative government in talking about government advertising. Let me just quote briefly from what he had to say.

**Mr. Wrye:** You have changed, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Conway:** You have changed indeed, Mr. Speaker. I must say I saw the Deputy Speaker's most recent report to the people of Mississauga North, and it was much more antiseptic and newsworthy than a lot of the Minister of the Environment's efforts.

I have been blinded by the ministerial presence on the front page. But the issue, for the edification of the member for Sarnia, is well put by Mr. J. Patrick Boyer in his recent article, "Government Advertising: Some Wheat, Too Much Chaff." Mr. Boyer says: "In like vein, the Progressive Conservative government in Ontario spent more than \$8 million on advertising in a five-month period in 1980, double the amount for the same period in 1979."

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** How does that rate per capita with the federal spending? Can the member give us those relative numbers?

**Mr. Gillies:** Your kissing cousins in Ottawa.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for Renfrew North has the floor.

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, I never cease to be amazed at how anxious my friends opposite are to deflect any and all criticism to another place. Why do they not have the intestinal fortitude of their colleague the member for Nipissing (Mr. Harris), who, I understand from reading some of the northern press, has at least thought about running for the other place? If the minister is anxious to be in the other place, I am sure Bud Cullen would be happy to see the Minister of the Environment on the campaign trail this summer or fall. If he wants to be a



federal politician, he should go to Ottawa. God bless him and Godspeed.

**8:40 p.m.**

I am sure Derek Blackburn would be delighted to see the youthful secretary for youth in Ontario, the member for Brantford (Mr. Gillies), engage himself in a national campaign to decide who represents that great part of Ontario in the national Parliament. But I take it the member for Sarnia and the member for Brantford have made a choice in that they have come here and they are happy about it. Well, they are here to give an accounting of how it is that—

**Mr. Gillies:** Responsible government.

**Mr. Conway:** It could be worse. It could be Brixton. I just say to the Minister of the Environment that he is here to give an accounting of his responsibility.

In his assessment Mr. Boyer noted that the Ontario government of William Davis over a five-month period in 1980 spent \$8 million, which was double the amount spent in the same period in 1979. A campaign costing \$3 million told Ontarians they had a good life and a pretty province. "Life is good in Ontario," said the jingle. "Preserve it, conserve it, Ontario." He noted the self-promotion, the subliminal and the political overtones of that kind of a campaign, did Mr. J. Patrick Boyer. He simply concluded that as a government which is now spending roughly \$60 million to \$75 million in advertising itself and its good works, when all bills are in—

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** The lowest per capita in Canada.

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Boyer noted: "Government cannot operate without communicating with its citizenry. However, the increasing amount of chaff, worthless stuff, which is coming forth from the government advertising and promotional campaigns reduces the effectiveness and credibility of its mainstay informational programs and raises serious issues about government manipulation of public opinion in a free and democratic society."

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Let us get to the good stuff.

**Mr. Conway:** The member for Sarnia says, "Get to the good stuff." Since I arrived in this place eight and a half years ago, the real stuff, the good stuff, the one big growth industry in this jurisdiction has been the advertising industry, about which the member for Sarnia feels so rightly nervous and about which this government has a lot of accounting to provide.

The advertising of the Ontario government has doubled in the last five years. It doubled because, I am afraid, more and more of the ministers are following the example set by the Treasurer and followed so carefully and so well by the Minister of the Environment that it is very difficult to credit there is any real restraint on that kind of promotional material.

The other day I met an individual who told me one of her responsibilities was to go out and interview people so she could produce the best profile of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. It was amazing what this individual told me. Her job, for which she was paid, presumably, and well paid, was to go around and talk to people, some of them in the opposition, some of them in the farm community, some in Don Mills and others elsewhere in north Frontenac, to find out all the good news about the minister and to put it all together in a glossy presentation to make available to the good people of Ontario. That is apparently what we are spending more and more money on.

If the Minister of the Environment and the Treasurer are expecting this Legislature to take seriously their restraint dictum, they are going to have to be seen to be practising a much tighter management of those kinds of funds. I expect this to be a very difficult job for the Treasurer, because my experience is that when it comes to self-promotion over these past number of years he is what is called triple-A in rating. There is nobody in his class. He is in the fast track, the best track, the real de luxe track.

**Mr. Wrye:** Larry for leader.

**Mr. Conway:** Yes. If what my friends in the media tell me about the efforts to which he will go to present a good face or to be credited is accurate, there is no more successful and high-grade promotional campaign anywhere in the public sector of Canada than that which is operated by the Treasurer and Minister of Economics.

I simply say to the Treasurer that I think Mr. Boyer's comments about government advertising, which I recommend to the minister, make for very interesting reading. I would not like to see a decrease in the legitimate promotional efforts of the government of Ontario because I can think of some areas where things are not very well advertised at a purely routine level. I see an awful lot more abuse of literature that at best has a dubious life and an even more questionable circulation.

I know it brings joy to the hearts of certain friends in the advertising and publishing world



who are perhaps closer to the government than to the rest of us, but it would be a useful thing for the Treasurer to follow some of the advice of Mr. Boyer, considering we are on the eve of the election term. I would not want to see his restraint pressures in any way compromised by excesses which have been all too evident in the past.

I have just one final word about the Treasurer. I was thinking about the Treasurer the other day when I was imagining succession, whenever it comes over there, and it may be a longer time rather than a shorter time, and I thought what an unhappy situation the Treasurer finds himself in because he is doing well. It is difficult for me to admit this, but our man from St. Andrew-St. Patrick is doing well, but with respect to his future ambitions, he only has one left.

**Mr. Foulds:** He might run federally too.

**Mr. Conway:** It was a federal connection that made me think about this. It was said that the longer the Prime Minister of Canada stayed, the more it appeared his presence would guarantee the succession of a certain Toronto lawyer who practises in the firm of McMillan Binch. I do not know whether that is true, but I thought of a corresponding provincial parallel, which is that the longer the member for Brampton (Mr. Davis) holds on, the more likely it is it will be a Grossman/McKeough contest if, as and when it comes.

**Mr. Nixon:** I say Julian Porter.

**Mr. Conway:** No, no. Julian Porter has to get a nomination and the member for St. David (Mrs. Scrivener) is very tenacious indeed.

I just thought, alas, the poor Treasurer, if it should be that his seatmate the Premier should hang on so long as to reduce the field to the Treasurer of today versus the super-Treasurer of yesterday, how difficult a political prospect that might be.

**The Deputy Speaker:** You are just on your way back to the vote on supply.

**Mr. Conway:** I was just on my way back to the debate.

I wanted to say a word about the Minister of Education, who is not here tonight. She left in a cloud of dust late this afternoon, having been—

**Mr. Nixon:** She left in a high dudgeon.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Who was driving it?  
8:50 p.m.

**Mr. Conway:** I say a cloud of dust because the exchange between the minister and the leader of

the New Democratic Party was, to say the least, a spirited one.

I wanted to say a word about the commission looking at the restructuring of Ontario universities. I know that, as with radio broadcasts in this city where I am involved, the Minister of Colleges and Universities monitors these things very carefully; so it is as good as talking to her directly.

I am concerned that she has it in her mind that we are going to proceed in the coming weeks with, on the one hand a major commission to restructure Ontario universities, the so-called Bovey commission, while at the same time she proceeds unilaterally to implement significantly new structures for operating grants formulas for those 15 Ontario universities involved and while she unilaterally proceeds with the enactment of Bill 42, an act respecting university deficits.

I do not want to upset my House leader, who has been very supportive throughout these recent days with respect to the future of Bill 42, but I do want the minister to know that it would be prudent of her to understand that reasonable people on this side of the aisle imagined that, given her own statements about the lack of urgency about Bill 42 in the fall of 1983, she would do well to set it aside, recognizing that, as she said herself, she does not need it in the here and now and that, as she indicated in the fall, she probably would never have to use it, leaving a lot of us wondering why she was in such a big rush to get it then.

I want to say to the minister in her absence that it would be very prudent and wise of her to allow the Bovey commission to go forward to do its work involving extremely important issues that have to be resolved by the participation not only of the three commissioners but also of the university community and, certainly, the public interested in and involved with university affairs in Ontario.

I want to believe that the Minister of Colleges and Universities will take a prudent, sensible, reasonable course in the coming weeks; that she will not try, as she sometimes does, to ascend a white horse and to ram it through Bill 42, so to speak.

**Mr. Nixon:** Ascend a white horse and ram it through?

**Mr. Foulds:** The image that leaps readily to mind staggers the imagination.

**Mr. Conway:** The problem with my agricultural colleagues is that they invariably turn these antiseptic phrases into some kind of personal reference that is—



**Mr. Nixon:** The image of Lady Godiva is overpowering.

**Mr. Sweeney:** Bette on a white horse?

**Mr. Conway:** There are many in this province who imagine the minister on a white horse, determined to build a fundamentally different educational world.

I see the Treasurer brushing the side of his face. It reminds me that he has had his brush with this minister on educational policy. I will never forget the look on his face in this place about a year and one month ago when he sat with his friends the Attorney General and the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs one night at about 10:35. If ever there was a horse-whipped triumvirate, it had to be that.

We knew the debate had been going on about Bill 127. I think it was fair and reasonable for us to have assumed, as everyone over there did, that the Treasurer and the Attorney General, being city members, had a view of Bill 127 that was not exactly the view of the minister. But not even the Treasurer and the Attorney General as a team could stare her down. There were more than a few marks, scars or whatever showing on the defeated luminaries in that case.

I say to the minister that it would be unnecessarily provocative of the stability of this House and it would be unnecessarily threatening to the important work of the Bovey commission for her to imagine that she can or should proceed in the coming weeks with her Bill 42. I thought it would be useful for me in this place tonight to indicate my hope that the commission on university restructuring will be allowed to continue to an early completion of its important mandate. During the course of that period, I expect and hope the minister will set aside that controversial Bill 42 which she has standing in her name on the order paper.

I have another comment on the Bovey commission. It concerns me that the commission has been set to work in the way it has. I remember last fall in the context of the debate on Bill 42 that the minister said late in the session that the answer to some of my questions about what the ministry thinking would be about resolving some of the problems would come to light with a statement she intended to make.

I was off in a far distant part of the province on December 15 struggling in a by-election, the results of which are now public and less satisfying than I would have imagined, when the minister stood in her place and said her response to my concerns about the problems of Bill 42 were going to be responded to by the Bovey

commission, a commission she struck on that occasion.

I am worried that the commission has been set to work with a set of terms of reference that are unnecessarily threatening in some respects. I note, for example, that in her December 15 statement the minister imagines faculty renewal to be the cornerstone of her new system, her new operational plan. I think it was unnecessary for that comment to be contained in that statement because it has left quite a few people in the university community worried, if not alarmed, about what ministry intentions are in this respect.

I am concerned as well that the minister imagines in her statement that she somehow is going to be able to get this Bovey commission to report some time in the late summer or early fall of this year, take it and go forward unilaterally and restructure the university system of Ontario. I hope the minister does not really and realistically expect she is going to be allowed that opportunity.

Some of us were around here when the former Minister of Health, now Minister of Industry and Trade, tried to do that with our public hospital sector. I would want this Minister of Colleges and Universities to be spared the ignominy that was ultimately his when, days after he closed Doctors Hospital, the aggressive, upwardly mobile young back-bencher from St. Andrew-St. Patrick opened it. I would not want to see anyone on the government bench embarrassed in a similar fashion.

I would not want to see the Minister of Colleges and Universities do something to Brock University that would in any way compromise that great institution in the Niagara Peninsula, and force a reaction from the members for Brock (Mr. Welch) and St. Catharines (Mr. Bradley). I would not want to see the Minister of Colleges and Universities embarrassed by any of her colleagues in the way she has been embarrassed over the implementation, or at least the discussion of the implementation of the Parrott commission on the reorganization and the restructuring of the university community in northeastern Ontario.

**9 p.m.**

The minister would be wrong to imagine she is unilaterally going to take that report, such as it will be from the three commissioners, and go forward to implement its findings without any reference to this assembly and the broader community we represent.

For some time now, I have said some clear direction for the post-secondary sector is re-



quired. Three years ago, the Premier's blue-ribbon panel, the so-called Fisher group, reported that our universities in this province were imperilled by a period of provincial government underfunding, by a lack of direction and by a lack of support. The minister has now finally stood in her place and indicated that she is prepared to take some kind of action and to set some kind of direction for the critical university community in this province for the years and decades ahead.

Concerned as I am about some of the intentions set out in those terms of reference, I am prepared to give the minister that opportunity. The member for Hamilton West (Mr. Allen) and I have been travelling much of the province in recent months talking about some of these issues in terms of our universities. There is great concern. It is a concern that has not been set to rest by any of the minister's reassurances or by the comments contained in last Tuesday's throne speech.

More than anything else, the province expects to have a healthy and vibrant post-secondary community. We are going to depend on it, both for intellectual and economic benefits. I expect the Bovey commission's report, which will probably come after the next provincial election, will give this assembly the opportunity to discuss, in a major public way, the problems, challenges and options we have to rehabilitate our university system.

It has been allowed to deteriorate over the last 10 years because the Davis government at Queen's Park has shown much less interest in supporting and re-establishing a viable, creative, truly strong and diversified university community, the like of which we must have if we are going to effectively deal with the challenges which lie ahead.

I wanted to touch on that. As well, I wanted to encourage the ministers responsible for government spending to indicate they are prepared. For example, the Treasurer is now talking to the province's chief policeman. In the public accounts committee not too many weeks ago, we were treated to the problems the Solicitor General is having with his new telecommunications system; the one that started in 1979-80 at an estimated cost of \$20 million and which, at last report, is moving upwards of \$71 million. That is not a bad rate of increase in four years; from \$20 million to \$71 million.

I was talking to a communications expert the other day. "You should ask the Solicitor General," this fellow said, "what it is going to cost to amend the system if that power line, that

Hydro corridor, is adjusted in a way that appears likely." I understand there are some very significant impacts of a power corridor—

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Wait a minute. I will ask him.

**Mr. Conway:** The Treasurer might ask him. In the past three and a half years, the Treasurer has been asked to authorize expenditures fully \$40 million more than were imagined when this project began in 1979 or 1980. Before he comes to this assembly and asks for additional funds, some people in the province might very well expect that he fully understands the requests being made of him by people like the province's chief policeman. As I said, according to the Provincial Auditor, he has a telecommunications difficulty on his hands that grows like Topsy at a very rapid rate.

I had intended to make some comments about the people's power corporation tonight. Unfortunately, I am not prepared to do that since I was not able to get the remarks properly organized. I will be doing that on another occasion.

In conclusion, let me say we on this side of the House are not in any way unprepared to vote appropriations that are necessary and proper. But I have to say to this government and to the Treasurer in particular, it does some of us no good at all to be treated to more and more evidence that this 40-year-old government does not seem to know what it is about in these matters: to wit, the Wasaga Beach confession of the Chairman of Management Board; to wit, the telecommunications wonders of the Solicitor General; to wit, the advertising extravagance of the Minister of the Environment, etc.

We expect this government, when we can demonstrate that there have been some very serious questions about the administration of public funds—let me digress one last time while my friend the member for Carleton leaves the chamber.

I want this assembly to reflect upon what it was we in the eastern part of the province were treated to in the last three or four months about the province's largest community college. The government has been saying, and it was repeated in the throne speech, that unlike other governments it is going to exact a higher and better level of accountability from those agencies, boards, commissions and such subsidiary groups as colleges and universities.

I ask the Treasurer what we are to make of that commitment when we are treated to the spectacle in Ottawa of the province's largest community college, where we now have clear evidence



that—and that is a college, by the way, that was investigated 10 years ago by Mr. Norman Sisco because very serious questions were raised about its administration. A report was done and the conclusions were made public. The concerns that were at the base of the initial inquiry appeared to be entirely justified.

I want the Treasurer to hear this because he probably does not know it. In late 1983, in Ottawa, at a community college that receives most of its \$70 million in funds from the Ontario government, we had a senior college administrator who redirected more than \$250,000 from one fund in which he had an involvement, on its way to a program at Algonquin College over which he had some responsibility—

**Mr. Mitchell:** Don't you think it might be a little more prudent not to get into that sort of thing when you know quite well what is going on there.

**Mr. Conway:** I say to my friend the member for Carleton, I just want to put the facts before the Treasurer, because I want to believe he is serious when he says he is going to enforce a higher and better standard of accountability.

What is the evidence? I am just going to use an example because it is at the heart of much of the initiative and energy of the Minister of Colleges and Universities. I am not saying anything that is not well before the public of our region and, as a result of that, before the province as a whole.

Interjection.

**Mr. Conway:** I know my friend the member for Carleton wants to express his concerns, which I have to believe are legitimate.

**9:10 p.m.**

What do we know? We know a senior college official redirected \$250,000 from one fund in which he had an involvement, on its way to his Algonquin College financial management program, to a private service corporation of which he was the principal. He had the use of that \$250,000 for a period of more than two years, during which time it was also discovered there was in the same financial management program an overpayment of provincial funds in excess of \$2 million. He had the use of that \$250,000 for all of that two-year period.

One of the questions I had, which was answered not too long ago, was how was it possible we did not know that at Algonquin College \$250,000 had gone missing, not for two weeks or two months but for two years? One of the reasons, apparently, is there had been a \$2.2-million overpayment to that financial management program. It appears there was a lot wrong at

that time, at that level and at that community college.

I am sure the member for Carleton would want me to be fair and reasonable. Let me say in response to that concern, I do not profess to know how this all came about. I have grave suspicions in view of the fact the new president of that college was fired after 14 months of running that \$70-million operation. Most of that \$70 million comes from us in this assembly. These are very serious questions.

In view of the government's stated ambition to have a better and greater understanding of what was going on in the pursuit of a higher and better standard of accountability, surely no reasonable man or woman in this place could disagree with the idea that it should go forward to the Provincial Auditor saying, "As a man who has the capacity, who has the interest and who has the mandate, you go forward and put to rest these allegations, big and small, serious and not so serious."

What happened when that motion was put? I will tell the members what happened. The motion was not allowed to pass. I sit here today still wondering, how did somebody lay hands on \$250,000, redirect it to a private service corporation over which he had control, keep it for a period of two years, use that money for personal development or personal purposes and then, when it was discovered, give it back, the principal but with no interest, and continue to walk the streets of Ontario?

What are we to make, I say to the member for Carleton, of the much-talked-of commitment of the Treasurer and the ministers, particularly the Minister of Colleges and Universities, who say repeatedly, "We will exact a better and higher standard of accountability"?

I do not profess to have all the answers about the Algonquin College problem, but I want at least to know what the reality was. The only way I can think of to do that fairly and quickly is to dispatch the Provincial Auditor. Maybe there are a lot of hidden reasons which will clear up the misunderstanding. If there are, let me be the first to say I will give them a good and complete ear.

When we are treated to this kind of spectacle, I say to the Treasurer and his cabinet colleagues, what are we to make of these promises that they are going to manage better the money we are being asked to vote here tonight and later this session? There is, unfortunately and unhappily, too great a gulf between their promise of better management and their day-to-day performance of their public responsibilities.



I leave my remarks tonight with that caution to the minister who is being advised by my friend the member for Carleton. If he is going to have any credibility with the people of Pembroke, Petrolia or elsewhere, he is going to have to be seen to be functioning at a better level than we have seen in the recent past.

It is not going to be good enough to say in one place, "We are going to better understand, we are going to better account for the billions of dollars we transfer," and at the first sign of trouble in a given institution the government closes ranks and does not allow any kind of assessment that would take us to this better level of understanding.

It is not going to be good enough to be surrounded on an almost daily basis by evidence that the Manual of Administration is being broken, that tendering rules are being either ignored or circumvented, and then to send the Chairman of Management Board off to a service club luncheon in Wasaga Beach to say, "I am going to spend \$300,000 to hire management consultants to tell me and the government what I should be doing to give better management of these public accounts."

**Mr. Roy:** That is not very reassuring.

**Mr. Conway:** It is not very reassuring, as my friend the member for Ottawa East is quick and right to point out.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** It shows a complete lack of understanding.

**Mr. Roy:** Anybody who understands you has to be a genius.

**Mr. Conway:** The member for Dufferin-Simcoe says it shows a complete want of understanding. I suggest to the minister in charge of Management Board that if there was any place where one could gather a complete lack of understanding, it was in the public accounts committee of this Legislature in the past six months, as we in the committee and senior bureaucrats on behalf of the government groped, trying to understand who was running the ship, who was keeping the general store Ontario, because there seemed to be a substantial amount of violation that was going on without any discipline or any real accounting.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** "There seemed to be," I said.

**Mr. Conway:** The Chairman of Management Board says, "There seemed to have been." I do not think there was any "seemed to have been" in the auditor's report with respect to the conduct of the former Deputy Minister of Government Services.

**Mr. Roy:** He resigned just for the fun of it. Sure.

**Mr. Conway:** As my friend from Ottawa East says, Mr. Gordon presumably resigned for the fun of it.

I say to the member for Dufferin-Simcoe, it is just not good enough to send poor Mr. Carman off to the committee and to leave him floundering about because he does not understand what his minister's role is with respect to enforcing the best and the toughest guidelines anywhere in the free world this side of Manila. That kind of general reassurance does not carry much weight in the light of the developing evidence that there is a pattern—

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** Even you understand, but you do not want to admit it.

**Mr. Conway:** I do not understand. I was more confused at the end of that public accounts reference involving the former Minister of Government Services (Mr. Wiseman) than I ever was at the outset, and I say that to the minister in all candour. I listened very carefully to what Mr. Gordon and Mr. Carman had to say. I listened even more carefully to what the minister had to say in this House. I listened very carefully to what the member for London South said in the fall, when the Premier's current press secretary in her previous incarnation detailed in chapter and verse how serious the problem had become under the nose of the member for London South in his various departmental responsibilities.

I want to recall to the Treasurer's mind some of the public utterances of people like Mr. Les Horswill. I was thinking about where Les had gone, another one of the best and the brightest, to the Treasurer's staff.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** He is saying the same about you.

**Mr. Conway:** I was being flattering, I thought. Mr. Les Horswill is in the Treasurer's office. He is going to get the reputation he had a few years ago: stealing all the good ones from all quarters.

**Mr. McClellan:** What happened to the Minister of Agriculture and Food's staff? Where did David Surplis go?

**Mr. Conway:** They have gone in search of advisory committees.

**9:20 p.m.**

Mr. Horswill said yes, it was his view that some of those contracts the member for London South had let without tender to his London hit men had, upon reflection, violated the spirit and the letter of the Manual of Administration.



The Chairman of Management Board does not seem to remember what Mr. Horswill said on that occasion. Perhaps he has forgotten that the member for London South was not only a minister in violation of the Manual of Administration but also was at the time, and probably still is, a member of Management Board of Cabinet itself. At that time, the member for London South said, "I am doing this because it is my understanding that just about everybody else in the cabinet is doing it as well."

I ask the chairman, what kind of confidence does he suppose that instils in people like the man who is sitting in the chair? What does he think the member for York Centre (Mr. Cousens) feels as a right-wing Conservative when he reads in the public press that the member for London South is breaking the rules of the Manual of Administration because, apparently, he figures everybody else is doing it as well?

My leader and the member for Rainy River have pointed out that there is more and more evidence to support the contention of the member for London South that the Manual of Administration is more notable for its avoidance than for its application. I say to the Chairman of Management Board, that is not a fantasy.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** Maybe we should have lunch some day. It might take two hours, but I might get through to you.

**Mr. McClellan:** Who is going to pay for the lunch? Never mind—the public trough.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** The two of them at the public trough.

**Mr. Roy:** The Chairman of Management Board is supposed to be the watchdog of the public purse and he is not.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Cousens):** Order. The member for Renfrew North will not allow himself to be distracted by these interruptions unless he wants me to take over.

**Mr. Roy:** He wants to hide every time there is a problem.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Conway:** I want to note that I think I have been invited to dinner.

**Mr. Foulds:** No; lunch.

**Mr. Conway:** I agree with the New Democratic Party that nobody on this side of the House can be bought off with a free lunch.

**Mr. Wildman:** Dinner, perhaps?

**Mr. Conway:** Dinner maybe, but not lunch. That welfare diet has impaired the member for

Scarborough West (Mr. R. F. Johnston) for life, I am afraid.

However, I say to the Chairman of Management Board that it was all too obvious in the past six months that no one was minding the store. His senior staff did not know what they were about, they did not appear to—

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** Pardon? You are challenging my senior staff?

**Mr. Conway:** I sat in the standing committee on public accounts and heard as much.

**Mr. Roy:** We heard the minister's statement in the House.

**Mr. Conway:** As the member for Ottawa East said, we heard the minister's statement in the House. Who can forget that? Perhaps the ultimate proof of my point is that in the middle of the great controversy involving the member for Lanark (Mr. Wiseman) and the member for London South in November 1983, a letter arrived from on high signed by the Premier, clarifying the Manual of Administration.

Surely the Premier's letter of November 16 has to be understood as a want of confidence in what the minister and Management Board had been about for these past number of months. I simply say it is not good enough. If the minister wants more money, he is going to have to give better management of his responsibility.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** You challenge them?

**Mr. Conway:** I am sorry if I have upset the otherwise quiet Chairman of Management Board.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** It clearly demonstrates that what your leader said the other day was that he does not trust the civil service.

**Mr. Conway:** I will tell the minister this about the public service. There are some people in the public service who create difficulties for members of this assembly. I am reminded, for example, of the former Assistant Deputy Minister of Tourism and Recreation, Mr. John Laschinger, when he was found to have been in breach—

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** You really touch nerves with these guys when you do that. Look at the looks you get.

**Mr. Conway:** Who can forget John Laschinger? John Crosbie wishes he could. Who can forget John Laschinger coming before a committee of this Legislature and saying, "Too bad"?

**Mr. Wildman:** "That is the way I did it, and I would do it again." That is what he said.



**Mr. Conway:** Exactly. The member for Algoma supplies the requisite quotation. Un-revised and unrepentant was John Laschinger. We know you could not find a more neutral, more antiseptic, more nonpartisan public servant this side of Hughie Segal. We know Mr. Laschinger would have no partisan interests whatsoever. But in a very useful way my friend from Algoma reminds us all of what kind of act of contrition the former Assistant Deputy Minister of Tourism and Recreation was prepared to offer the committee of this Legislature that was inquiring into the misadventures that had been commented upon by the Provincial Auditor.

John Laschinger gave the back of his hand to the auditor and the standing committee on public accounts. To the auditor he said, "To you and the committee, the devil can take the hindmost." I say to the Chairman of Management Board of Cabinet, what are we to do with that kind of performance?

I remember being involved with the McMichael Canadian Collection's financial difficulties relating to the renovations, which quite frankly none of us could really quarrel with. What did we see there? The cabinet said: "You will be given roughly \$4.5 million to \$5 million to do what we think has to be done in the here and now. I know you want \$11 million, but we cannot afford it. We are going to give you \$5 million."

What did the McMichael group do? They certainly seemed to give the impression of saying: "Those poor people at the Legislature, those hicks, those cultural philistines do not understand the great good works we are about here. We have to do it this way." Notwithstanding the direction of the cabinet of Ontario to spend \$5 million, they apparently went and spent what they intended to spend all along and then submitted the bills.

I am not saying that for \$11 million we did not get a lot of improvements up at the McMichael Canadian Collection. What I am saying is that the clear directive of the Ontario government was flouted by one of its own agencies. Of that, there is all kinds of proof. That, I hope, is clear enough for the Chairman of Management Board.

To him I want to say that his reputation throughout this place, certainly with me up until the fall of 1983, was that of a shrewd, tough, tough-minded protector of the public purse.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Antiseptic.

**Mr. McClellan:** Dyspeptic.

**Mr. Conway:** Dyspeptic and dyspepsia are what I imagined in relation to other ministers.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** Do not change your mind, that is all. You were right in the first place.

**9:30 p.m.**

**Mr. Conway:** The Chairman of Management Board seems to be very nervous on this point. He has had his chance. He was repeatedly invited in the fall to stand in this House, take his place and say: "There is about me the evidence or the allegation of misappropriation, of violation of the government guidelines as set out in the Manual of Administration. So there is no misunderstanding, ladies and gentlemen, I am responsible. I will see to it that the best of guidelines are understood and implemented. So there can be no confusion, I will issue new clear directives."

But what did we get from the Chairman of Management Board? We got a performance that made me think of a referee in a professional wrestling match. He was being distracted by every imaginable irrelevance while the combatants were gouging each other's eyes out in flagrant violation of common decency, to say nothing of the rules of the game.

We were treated to the spectacle of the gatekeeper being duped, not once but daily. In the final analysis, what do we have? We have a plaintive Chairman of Management Board going off to Wasaga Beach and saying, "I need Price Waterhouse and the Canada Consulting Group to explain to me and the government what I should be doing."

That seems to be a very unhappy and almost unbelievable act of defeat by the government in general and by the minister in particular. I thought we paid the minister some \$70,000 to crack the whip. I did not get an impression in the past six months that any kind of a whip was being cracked.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** You love that \$70,000 figure. Do you tell them back home you get \$55,000?

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Conway:** No. I tell them I get about \$48,000 to \$50,000.

**Hon. Mr. McCague:** A little low, but that is all right.

**Mr. Conway:** If the minister has done the accounting, he should send it over. I always defer to the evidence.

The evidence of the minister's stewardship in the past year has been the evidence of incompetence, of noninvolvement, of "I wash my hands of my responsibility." The price we now pay for that is a \$300,000 contract to the Canada



Consulting Group and Price Waterhouse to define the minister for himself.

I am sorry about that. I had hoped there would be a better understanding. Those of us on this side who have watched this minister in earlier incarnations had expected more. There were great expectations that were not fulfilled. To the eager, salivating back-benchers I say that if his performance does not improve, even the member for High Park-Swansea (Mr. Shymko) may have his day sooner rather than later.

**Mr. Gillies:** While you are apologizing, apologize for the rest of your speech.

**Mr. Roy:** It is an excellent speech. He does not have to apologize. You may have to apologize.

**Mr. Gillies:** It is always good to see you on such a rare occasion.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** Call him to order.

**The Acting Speaker:** All and sundry, order. The member for Renfrew North has the floor, and please refer to honourable members by their seats.

**Mr. Conway:** I want to say to the member for Brantford (Mr. Gillies) that it would have been a lot easier for me to come here tonight and speak to an appropriation that gave a real-life commitment on behalf of this government to the youth employment initiatives spoken of by the Premier two months ago. There would be nothing easier, nicer or more satisfying for me or for many members on this side to come here to vote moneys for this Treasurer to go forward and to put in place more job opportunities for the young people of this province.

I want to say to the member for Brantford that maybe we are all blessed by the fact that nobody has really thought about the speech from the throne and what it did not tell us about what this government has not done for the 163,000 unemployed young people, really the 225,000 unemployed young people, in this province.

I want to say to the member for Brantford that it would make me feel a lot better about what his talking did on the other side if I had before me in late March 1984 some firm evidence that he was being listened to by his Premier and his Treasurer and if we had something concrete and specific instead of just these promises, instead of having the Premier go off to the Empire Club three, four, five or six weeks ago and raise great expectations about what his government was going to do to create jobs for the 200,000-odd unemployed young Ontarians.

I do not know how to read the speech from the throne in any other way than to take it as a breach of faith and almost a betrayal of trust for members of the government party, from the member for Brantford up to the Premier, to have gone around in recent weeks and months and to have raised expectations about what we might expect, to have promised the moon and to have not yet even delivered a thin slice of rancid cheese. There was nothing in the throne speech.

**Mr. Gillies:** It is all there.

**Mr. Conway:** I want to see the colour of the member for Brantford's money. I want to be able to go to Brantford and Unionville, and to a lot of other places from York East to Renfrew North, to say to the thousands of young unemployed that the Premier meant what he said.

**Mr. Gillies:** You will see it.

**Mr. Conway:** We have been waiting for weeks and months and there is absolutely nothing yet.

Interjection.

**Mr. Conway:** The minister says we are going to be impressed.

One thing we got in the speech from the throne was the admission from this government that its 20 years of experimentation with education in this province has come to an end because it was a failure. The very least I would have expected from the government in this speech from the throne was some clear and understandable compensation for the young men and women of this province who will carry with them for the rest of their lives the burden of the failure of the Davis experimentation in education.

There is nothing but vague promises, recycled commitments, more committees and a one-minister approach to the problems and opportunities of youth unemployment. Maybe the member for Brantford is the man of tomorrow, maybe the Treasurer has the answers, but how long are we going to have to wait? That is the question to which the young men and women, unemployed in greater than ever numbers in this province today, want an answer.

I say to the member for Brantford, in his capacity as the parliamentary assistant for youth responsibilities or whatever, it is not good enough simply to say, "Wait and see." Wait and see for how much longer? That is the promise these people were invited to fulfil two and a half years ago: "Come. Vote for Phil Gillies in Brantford, and Bill Davis and Phil Gillies will do it."



The young people of Renfrew North are saying: "They have done it all right. They have done it to me. They have put me out of school, they have left me out of work and they blame it all on some other jurisdiction—Ottawa, Tasmania or the star wars of Ronald Reagan.

I have to say to the Treasurer and to the member for Brantford that it is not good enough; in this case the old "tomorrow" politics of those who would procrastinate instead of making policy is not good enough. Time will not buy an answer. I cannot believe they are no more serious than this throne speech would indicate.

**9:40 p.m.**

I wanted to believe the Premier six weeks ago when he said we will do something. There is nothing as we head into the spring and early summer. It is only a matter of weeks before these young people in record numbers are going to be leaving the colleges and universities of this province to get employment either on a full-time or part-time basis. What do we have to offer them?

I ask my friend the member for Brantford to read the speech from the throne. If he can point out in that speech something concrete I can take to the 20-odd per cent of the unemployed young people in Renfrew county, then I would be delighted to take that and offer it up to them.

I know government cannot be expected to provide all the answers. I know the fiscal resources of this province are not as flush as they once were. But it is simply not good enough to wash one's hands, as the government appears to have done in this most recent speech from the throne, particularly in view of the fact that about six weeks ago it raised great expectations at the prime ministerial level.

I say to the Treasurer that when the last allocation was made to the Ontario career action program, which I think was roughly in the amount of \$2 million and came in January of this past year—they made a \$2-million additional allocation to OCAP, which I entirely support—they did so without any fanfare. They did not issue a press release. There was no indication to anybody out there looking for a job that there was going to be some additional help and one might reapply for the OCAP program which had long since been oversubscribed.

To give this government credit, it has over the course of recent years developed some creative, helpful programs, but everyone in this chamber knows what the problem is. They will not fund those programs to anything like the level the province requires at this critical juncture.

OCAP has been without money for most of the past 18 months. OCAP has cried out. I know people in the government who have knocked at the door of the Treasury saying: "It works and it creates jobs for young people. Give us more money and we will deal with the ever-worsening youth unemployment problem in Ontario." What do we get? We get from the Treasurer no money for a program that works. When there is an additional \$2 million, there is no announcement of whatever kind.

I would have thought that somebody somewhere would have thought it worth while perhaps just to issue a short press release to our local gallery if nothing else. They may have done it, but I certainly could not find it.

I have to say to the Treasurer and to his friend the member for Brantford that it is simply not good enough to tell the hundreds of thousands of young unemployed Ontarians, many of whom have been on the street for months and years, that they are going to have to wait just that much longer. People have waited for all these many months to see the colour of that money, to see the character of that initiative. I reiterate, it is not good enough to say that tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow they might get an answer. The tragedy of youth unemployment stares us all in the face today.

I conclude by saying the time for action has arrived. The moment the government wants to show its hand, the moment it wants to bring forward new initiatives or additional funding for proved and effective old initiatives is the day this Liberal Party, and I presume others, will be very pleased to come here and give the government the authorization it requires to make those programs work and to get those young people into the economy doing something productive and useful for themselves and for their community.

**Mr. Foulds:** Mr. Speaker, it really is a rather bizarre exercise we are engaged in this evening. We have before us a motion of the Treasurer that the Treasurer of Ontario be authorized to pay the salaries of the civil servants and other necessary payments pending the voting of supply for the period commencing April 1, 1984, and ending June 30, 1984, such payments to be charged to the proper appropriation following the voting of supply. This means, if I calculate correctly, that we will be voting this evening about \$6 billion for the Treasurer to expend on a temporary basis over a three-month period. That seems to me to be a fair chunk of money.



This party will be voting for the motion so the public service of this province can go about doing its job. But it is really rather bizarre when we have barely a quorum from all parties of the House to be debating the expenditure of \$6 billion. It really is rather bizarre when we get up to discuss a matter of considerable public importance, the spending of a quarter of the government's budget and the authorization thereof, that we have no statement from the Treasurer. We have no interim statement about the state of the province's finances before this House, even though we get it in printed form on a quarterly basis via the mails. We have no definition of what the minister considers necessary. Yet, before the evening concludes, I suspect we will have passed in one fell swoop an authorization for a minister of the crown to dispense \$6 billion.

That seems to be a matter of substance, a matter of some importance and a matter with which we should deal perhaps more seriously than we have either in the past or than we do in the present.

I would suggest, as a matter of modest minor reform, that whenever the Treasurer comes in for interim supply he should give us, not a full budget statement but a statement of the expenditures he sees as being necessary; he should give us a brief outline of the province's finances. It need not be a statement as lengthy as the one we have just heard from the deputy leader of the Liberal Party, but it could be a matter of some substance so we could debate in this House the budgetary and economic matters of this province with the seriousness they deserve.

I will not be speaking at great length, but I do want to put four or five matters to the Treasurer briefly. First of all, I want to remind him that if there has been both a political and a substantive failure on his part in the past year, it has been exemplified and typified by the Sensenbrenner Hospital situation, in which the Treasurer, who, I believe, initially had good intentions in meeting the particular circumstances at this hospital and felt he could, found ultimately he had to fail in his commitment to the Sensenbrenner Hospital workers, to this House and, I think, to himself.

I do not have the newspaper clipping in front of me, but he said publicly in an interview—I believe it was with the *Globe and Mail*—that this was the most difficult thing he had had to cope with in his short tenure as Treasurer, and I believe that.

I want to underline in as antiseptic and unprovocative terms as possible that it was a failure. I submit that it was not a failure because

of a lack of goodwill on the part of the Treasurer; it was a failure of the basic legislation. That was what this party argued against alone in this House for some two years.

**9:50 p.m.**

Secondly, I would like to point out, not at the enormous length of the previous speaker, that there has been some slipping of the grip on fiscal management and financial responsibility on the part of the ministry of this government. Perhaps the deputy leader of the Liberal Party went on slightly too long about his examples. Perhaps they were old hat in the sense that they have all been raised before. But it really is quite bizarre that a government that prides itself as the fiscal manager of the province and as being fiscally responsible could have the series of irresponsible expenditures we have had, from the Algonquin College fiasco to Alan Gordon's shenanigans, whatever they were.

It is extremely bizarre to have the minister who is supposed to be the fiscal manager par excellence, the man in charge of the purse-strings, the Chairman of Management Board, absolving himself of responsibility when the procedures of the government with regard to tendering expenditures are not adhered to. I suggest it really is quite bizarre that, five years or more after his appointment, he has not just one, but a set of consulting firms to tell him what his job is.

I want to spend the majority of my time this evening talking directly to the Treasurer about his new budget. I am frankly quite appalled by the indications we have that the Treasurer will not be bringing in a new budget until late May. People on government benches and some people who pride themselves as being economists were saying late in the fall that the recovery was beginning to take hold, but already in the spring of 1984 they are saying the recovery is faltering, interest and mortgage rates are rising and all the bugaboos that were supposed to be the signs of the great recession in 1981 are rearing their heads again.

We see that so-called recovery, which has never been an employment recovery, faltering; yet we have no statement by the Treasurer and no initiative taken by this government to have an early budget, simply from a commonsense, practical, business point of view.

I am even more appalled that the Treasurer, after refusing to bring in a winter works budget or a mini-budget in the fall or early winter, is now giving himself the luxury of waiting until late May to bring in a genuine budget. I suggest to the



Treasurer that is simply not good enough. Going on interim supply, which we are voting this evening, is not good enough.

What we need is a new budget that does not merely tinker with a few points in the taxation system here and there or give a few thousand dollars to the Ontario career action program here and there. We need a fundamental beginning of a restructuring of our province's economy. Unless the Treasurer is willing to tackle the fundamental structural problems of the unemployment of our youth, our elderly and women, he will have failed not only the Sensenbrenner Hospital workers, but he will have failed as the Treasurer of this province.

When he took the job, he took on an enormous task and he has yet to show a sign that he is up to that task. By postponing the budget that long, it seems to me he is postponing the inevitable day when he must come through and come on to the line.

I want very briefly to put on the record some of our concerns about older workers. There are at least 32,000 unemployed workers in Ontario aged 55 or more. When the leader of the New Democratic Party raised the question with the Minister of Labour this afternoon, the minister indicated that although he himself admitted his answer was inadequate, things were getting better. Things were getting better because in 1982, 49,385 employees were laid off in 346 establishments because of plant closures, while in 1983, only 19,143 employees were laid off in 186 establishments.

I do not consider that progress because what we have there is a cumulative thing. Sure, fewer people were laid off through plant closures in 1983, but it is not an economic recovery when we still have 186 establishments of 50 or more employees closing down and that number of employees laid off. I suggest we are looking at some 68,000 employees laid off over two years and that in the majority of those cases they were older workers.

The greatest single failure of this government is not that it has failed to develop any programs but that it has failed to do even the thing it says it does so well, which is to keep an accounting of what happens to those workers. There has been no tracking of those workers. There has been no follow-up to find out what happens to those men and women who so tragically lose their jobs because of the great recession of 1981-84.

We in this party have outlined in other places our suggestions for meeting the problem of older workers. Very briefly, it requires a three-

pronged attack. First, it requires fundamental pension reform on the part of this government—something the Treasurer has dabbled in between sessions—so people over 50 who are laid off and who have no hope of getting another job can have a full pension.

If that is going to happen, we need to have bridging arrangements so they can have those pensions. We need to have supplementary pensions so those men and women can live and still have productive and useful lives of dignity. There are a good many of those people who, with their experience, may not be able to get another job but can do a tremendous amount in contributing to our community in terms of voluntary work—coaching minor hockey properly, being involved in horticultural societies, doing work around their homes and so on.

**10 p.m.**

The pension provisions that have been outlined by my leader, by me and by the member for Hamilton East (Mr. Mackenzie)—and I know the member for Bellwoods (Mr. McClellan) will talk about them because of his own particular interest in the issue—are serious suggestions about meeting that structural problem.

However, I also want to say that we should not automatically write off people over 50 who have been laid off. We must, if they so wish, make every effort to retrain them for jobs that exist. At present, most of the retraining we are engaged in is for nonexistent jobs. If we have any single quarrel with the government's fiscal and financial policy, it has to do with its failure and the federal Liberal government's failure—the kissing cousins, because the federal Liberal government is the kissing cousin of this government, not the party to my right and to its right—to aim at full employment as an objective of our society. Government should take a leadership role.

Second, I want to talk about youth unemployment.

**Mr. McClellan:** The Liberal Party's friend Jimmy Coutts knows all about youth unemployment. Is it true the members are supporting Jimmy Coutts for the leadership?

**Mr. Foulds:** I hear that is true, but I do not want to get diverted into the kind of speech made by the member for Renfrew North (Mr. Conway). Much as I like engaging in the banter about personalities, I would like to deal with policy and substance.

I suggest that all of the suggestions made by the honourable party to my right and by the potential leader of the federal Liberal Party, the federal Liberal candidate in Spadina—the never-



to-be member, by the way—with regard to youth unemployment, both ideologically and geographically will meet only one tenth of the job requirements of our young unemployed in this province.

There are 163,000 unemployed young people in this province and all of the much-ballyhooed programs of the party to my right and of the candidate for the Liberal Party in the federal Spadina riding will meet about 16,000 jobs or one tenth of the requirement. Some program. That is all ballyhoo and no substance.

Ontario is failing the young men and women of this province. The costs of youth unemployment are staggering in emotional terms just as the costs of unemployment for older workers are staggering in emotional terms. I want to say something else. Older workers may become bitter because they are thrown on the scrap heap after giving a productive life to our society, and they have every right to be sad and bitter. But think of the bitterness of youth who are thrown on the scrap heap before they have had a chance even to contribute to the economy of this nation.

I would suggest the Catholic bishops struck a chord in the provincial and national consciousness a year ago last January when they talked about joblessness. They understood, as we understand—I hope members of all parties understand—that men and women, young and old, have worn the dignity of a job as a badge of honour. What has happened is this government and the federal Liberal government have taken away even the opportunity for those men and women, young and old, to have that badge of honour.

If there has been a fundamental failure on the part of the Davis administration from its inception in 1971, it is its failure in that regard because this government did have the where-withal in budgetary terms, in resources and in the opportunity to restructure the taxation system in those growth periods. If it had taken advantage of that opportunity, we would not now be facing this serious economic crisis and this serious social crisis.

It is instructive that on the licence plates of this province in the 1960s there was the little phrase, "Province of Opportunity." It is instructive that has changed from "Province of Opportunity" to "Yours to discover." But it is yours to discover what? It is yours to discover disillusionment, yours to discover anger, yours to discover unemployment, yours to discover a lack of housing. That is what this government has done to the province of opportunity.

What angers me about this government is it has not only failed as managers of the books of the province—it has failed to be fiscally responsible by encouraging high living, irresponsibility and sleight of hand in fiscal management at the provincial level in terms of the dollars and cents that are given it in its stewardship by the taxpayers of this province—but it has also failed to manage the economy.

It has preferred the short-term gains of political expediency and political advantage to the long-term benefit of the people of the province and, frankly, to the long-term benefit of its own political longevity.

We all make jokes about the longevity of the Tory party. The government party makes jokes in its sense of self-satisfied smugness, the opposition parties with a sense of rather cynical fun in order to withstand the pain of the Tory longevity, but the Tory party is rotten. It is dying. It will collapse. It will collapse simply because of the kind of smug reaction by the member for High Park-Swansea. It will die and collapse simply because it has not been creative enough, has not been imaginative enough and has not been courageous enough in coming to grips with the economy. It has squandered our inheritance.

I do not have to point out the failings of the opposition parties. That is the government's job and it will do that. I admit there have been failings on the part of the opposition parties. Our greatest single failure has been the failure to take over the reins of government.

**10:10 p.m.**

I readily admit that, but having been entrusted with the government for so long, this government has failed to meet its responsibilities. When it gets into the kind of second-rate, noncreative, public relations response, when it gets into the patronage response, so if there is a problem there is a "throw money at it" response, the politics of failure become apparent in a time of restraint because the government ain't got no more money to throw at the problem.

The Treasurer is going to have one heck of a difficult job when he finally does have the courage to bring down this budget at the end of May. He will not, unless he is a man of extraordinary skill, have the courage to bring in a budget which fundamentally restructures the taxation system in this province, which fundamentally gets taxation off the backs of the people who earn between the minimum amount of income tax payment and \$30,000 to \$32,000 a year.



There are a few little statistics that are really quite appalling. Since the last election in 1981, the provincial government has increased the average family's taxes by \$700. In last year's budget, for every \$1 in increased family taxes, the government provided tax breaks of 14 cents. For every \$1 increase in corporate taxes, the government provided corporate tax breaks of \$5.11. Would that we as individual citizens could have that kind of break.

A family of four with one wage earner pays about \$5,000 in income tax if he or she earns \$25,000 in this province and country. A similar taxpayer who earns \$25,000 a year in investment income from the sale of corporate securities, not in wage income, would pay a tax of \$1,500.

There were 740 people in this country who earned more than \$100,000 a year and paid not one cent of federal income tax. It is that kind of pushing that my colleagues to the right should be doing to their colleagues at the federal level to reform the taxation system. It is that kind of reform the Treasurer should be pushing to the federal Treasurer.

The last three budgets have been punitive in that they have affected Ontario families. They have increased liquor taxes and tobacco taxes, the so-called sin taxes. They have increased the Ontario health insurance plan premiums, personal income tax, sales tax, gasoline taxes. All those have been raised.

The Treasurer must take the opportunity of an early budget to signal his intention to change from the mean-spirited approach of his predecessor. It really was an amazing act that his predecessor was able to conduct, with his ideological infatuation with Reaganomics and the kind of nice-guy image he has. He now uses his opportunity to jet around the world trying to hustle the sale of Ontario in the boardrooms of the world, not just the boardrooms of the province.

Instead of putting all our eggs in one basket, what we need to do from time to time in this province is to develop for our country those products for which there is a domestic market and to use that domestic market, which we often call import replacement, as a basis for hustling on the international market.

The obvious example is mining machinery. We are probably the third largest, if not the second largest, mining jurisdiction in the world, and we remain the largest importer of mining machinery in the world. In the rapid transit area the province has developed a crown corporation to manufacture rapid transit equipment, which it

is hustling all over the world. Why in blazes can we not do the same in mining machinery? If the government needs to go into a consortium with the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia as well because it wants their market, then why not do it? There is here both a natural domestic market and a natural export market.

I will take this example of import replacement and another simple one. Do members know that somehow this country is unable to produce thumbtacks? There is not one manufacturer of thumbtacks in Canada. I do not believe the people of Ontario and of Canada are incapable of manufacturing thumbtacks; I do not believe we have to import thumbtacks from Britain, as we do for Ontario.

The thumbtacks that we and all of the government services order for our offices are imported from Britain. I do not believe we are incapable of producing thumbtacks in Ontario, and I suggest this is an area where a good free-enterprising, entrepreneurial soul could get a government loan or grant to develop a full-fledged industry right here in Ontario.

I use those two simple but direct examples: mining machinery and thumbtacks. We do not produce either in the way we could and should to serve both a domestic market and an international market.

I would suggest to the Treasurer that in his upcoming budget, which I would urge him to move ahead by at least a month and bring in by the end of April, he should look at the development of public housing. Public housing is one of the best investments this province could make. It both supplies a real need for the people of this province—socially assisted housing in the nonprofit sector, public housing, co-operative housing—and gives an immediate boost to the economy in supplying jobs for both older and younger workers.

Chronic care beds in nonprofit community-based homes, such as that run by the sisters of St. Joseph's in Thunder Bay—

**Mr. Conway:** A great organization.

**Mr. Foulds:** Not only are they a great organization, but they happen to run a great chronic care home, which they themselves subsidize to the tune of \$250,000 a year. They provide first-rate and caring service. That kind of chronic care facility not only could meet a needed social goal and produce jobs but also could reduce the overall cost of our health care system because so many of the active treatment beds in our health care system are occupied by people who could be more adequately, more thought-



fully and more caringly looked after in a genuine nonprofit nursing or chronic care home. Those are only two concrete suggestions.

**10:20 p.m.**

I want to conclude by saying that unless there is a fundamental restructuring of the province's budget—not just a fundamental restructuring of the process and of our taxation system but also a fundamental attack on structural youth unemployment and unemployment of older workers—this Treasurer and this government will have failed.

I suggest that would be a tragedy, not merely for the political ambitions of the Treasurer and for the longevity of the Conservative government but for the people of Ontario. I suggest that while we are voting \$6 billion tonight, the Treasurer give us an indication and a commitment to the things I have outlined in my speech this evening.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, I have listened carefully for most of the evening to the contributions made by the honourable members opposite.

I should like to begin by pointing out that the member for Port Arthur has speculated the budget date would be in the latter part of May. I want to reassure him that as things look currently, I will be looking at a somewhat earlier date than that, although I acknowledge that while I would ordinarily prefer a late April date, we will probably end up around the traditional date for budgets. I suspect it will not be far off the dates of the last couple of budgets.

Quite frankly, I do not want to bring it in earlier because some of the economic indicators are causing us to look carefully to make sure that our predictions, as set out in my prebudget statement in December, are still going to be on target. In that regard I should also point out that while we want to do that, we are, as of today, still quite confident in what I consider to be fairly good and optimistic numbers in the economic forecasts for this current year. There is obviously some concern about the interest rate situation. Notwithstanding the events of the past couple of weeks, we are still confident this is going to be a good year for growth in Ontario.

As to the remarks of the deputy leader of the Liberal Party, without getting into the entire debate again and without joining a debate which no doubt will be joined many other times during this session with regard to the whole public accountability issue and the good works of the Chairman of Management Board and his entire operation, I think one has to be fair to the 80,000 civil servants in the province who are loyal,

dedicated and working under a system that has handled, and always does handle, a great number of transactions every day, every month and every year, and does so efficiently and effectively.

As to my colleague the Chairman of Management Board, he has worked with me and my predecessor in a way that remains the envy of governments and provincial and federal auditors throughout this country. The scrutiny we are currently undergoing, both internally and externally in the light of the consultant study, is one that, as my colleague has said, is welcome because we are convinced that by any measure and any standard, the current operating methods, mechanisms, checks and balances will prove to be the best developed anywhere.

**Mr. Bradley:** The best in the world.

**Mr. Conway:** This side of Manila.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Certainly this side of Ottawa; there is no question about that.

**Mr. McClellan:** They are rubbing their hands in the back row. Are you running for Ottawa too?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** No, never; that is a commitment.

**Mr. Conway:** Unlike Roy, you could find a seat.

**Mr. Bradley:** Why did you torpedo Laura Sabia then?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** I do not even know when the Spadina meeting was held. I could not do that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Conway:** Jim Coutts will look pretty good between Ying Hope and Dan Heap.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Even the member for Renfrew North would look good in that. I acknowledge that.

On interim supply, for those who are interested, the member for Port Arthur has suggested the interim supply discussion should be preceded by a short statement by the Treasurer presenting the motion, setting out, as I took notes here, the need for the supply motion, the amounts of moneys that would be required and a brief outline of the state of the economy and finances. I think that is a fairly reasonable suggestion.

I must say I have treated the interim supply time as time for the opposition to address its concerns in the light of Ontario Finances, which comes out quarterly, and all the information that is available through all the traditional sources. However, if the members opposite feel a statement of some sort might be helpful, then I think that is a reasonable suggestion. We shall try



to accommodate that suggestion with the next motion for interim supply.

Finally, the member for Port Arthur has raised, as has the deputy leader of the Liberal Party, the traditional and important employment questions as they relate both to young people and to older employees who have lost their jobs because of the recession. These are the areas where we are working hard right now. We are looking at federal support which has been promised. In fairness, while it is slow and clearly is not the amount we had expected and anticipated in the federal budget, none the less some assistance may well be available. We are working with them. As I say, it is going more slowly than I had hoped, but we are trying to work the federal programs into ours in such a way that we do not get into the traditional overlap.

One of the continuing problems in the youth employment area is that the more we review these programs, the more we find there is an absolute plethora of programs, some of them too narrowly defined to fit all the client groups they tried to fit when they started. Between federal programs, provincial programs and programs run through the community colleges, even with the help of the youth employment counselling centres, it is my view at present that a great deal of effort has to go into co-ordinating those programs, sorting out which should remain intact and broadening them so we not only get our young people understanding the programs but also match the programs to the real problems out there.

As I deduce the real problems, one thing pops out: for example, 20 per cent of young people comprise 50 per cent of all the days spent on youth unemployment. That indicates the core of the problem and it indicates what we are doing right now in trying to shift whatever moneys we have into that core area.

**Mr. Conway:** You have some excellent programs. They are just without money.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** I say to the deputy leader of the Liberal Party, they are not without money. In point of fact, our efforts on the good programs are concentrated on coming behind and making sure not only that they are well funded but also that they are well known, because one of the problems we have, I suspect, is that they fill needs for people who are not aware of them. When they are aware of them, as the member saw with the Ontario career action program, we simply put the money into the program to fill the need.

In any event, I urge the House to vote for this interim supply motion as we work down towards what I hope will be a budget addressing the points raised by both opposition members.

Motion agreed to.

**10:30 p.m.**

### JUNCTION TRIANGLE

**Mr. Speaker:** As provided for in standing order 28(b), the member for Parkdale (Mr. Ruprecht) has given notice of dissatisfaction with an answer of the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt). I now recognize the member for Parkdale.

**Mr. Ruprecht:** Mr. Speaker, the residents of the Junction triangle area have been exposed to the grave dangers of chemical spills and air emissions, both in the sewers and in the air. I am not very happy with the answer that was given to me by the minister when he was unable to tell us who was responsible for the most recent dangerous air emission that hospitalized some students and created grave health dangers to teachers and the ice rink guard at this site.

I would like to know why the minister is unable to trace the emissions which poisoned the teachers, students and the whole area. I was told by the minister's staff that the ministry would determine the culprit early in April and be able to identify the emission in order to assure or give some guarantees to the residents that this is not a recurring item. The minister got up on Friday and said, "We are not in a position to tell anything about this incident." When we look at the history over the years, we find there has been one chemical spill after another.

We know there have been polychlorinated biphenyls in municipal sewers close to the area. We know, as the minister well knows, some schools had to be shut down and that kids and other residents had to be taken out of the area. He is well aware that because of the tradition of the Junction triangle the residents are very adamant now that this no longer occur because the promise was made by the previous Minister of the Environment that these spills would no longer take place.

I am quoting from a letter by the former Minister of the Environment in which he stated that the "discharging of highly odorous materials of the type in question will not be tolerated by my ministry."

There is existing legislation in place, both in the Environmental Protection Act and the Ontario Water Resources Act, to deal with such violations. As I said earlier, I have no doubt the



minister is serious about trying to clean it up, but when will he be serious enough to send his ministry team into the Junction triangle area and assure the residents he is cracking down? That is the basic question.

We know the residents in the Junction triangle area are facing a grave danger. We know a comparison between birth defects of children in the Junction area and those of children in other areas of Toronto shows that in the Junction and surrounding neighbourhoods birth defects are three times higher than those in other parts of Toronto. That is certainly a big problem. We would like to find out when the minister is going to act. I would like to give the minister a chance to give us and the residents assurances that any further air emission or chemical spill will be more promptly investigated than the last one and done with a lot more vigour.

About six weeks ago I invited the chemical companies and the ministry staff to my office to find out whether assurances could be given that this will no longer occur. Most of the companies preferred not to show up. At that point it was determined that the ministry staff did not properly investigate this question as they should have done. I had to send them into a certain area and say, "If the wind came from the northwest, why did you not look at companies A, B and C?" At that point it had not been investigated.

If the minister cannot give us such assurances, I cannot see any other route but to ask him to have environmental assessment hearings in this area so the residents can get assurances they can live in an environment that as taxpayers they have a right to live in.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to respond to the initial inquiry by the honourable member and to further points he has raised this evening with respect to the Junction triangle.

First, I would like to put some facts on the record for the member. I am sure he is aware of some of these things. I do not know why he did not incorporate them in his remarks. Ministry investigations to this time have indicated the air quality in the area immediately adjacent to the Junction triangle—and I want the member to listen very carefully to this—compares favourably with the air quality in the balance of the Metro Toronto area. I think he should also be aware that the kinds of allegations he raises on a continuous basis with respect to the environmental concerns he seems to be so serious about simply do not check out with the facts we have before us.

I recognize, as the member does, that whenever there is an older industrial area, as the Junction triangle is, and when residential areas are being developed in close proximity to it, it is obviously going to lead to some conflicts between industry and those residential areas and from time to time there are going to be the kinds of odours that cause me some difficulty and about which I am sure the member is concerned as well.

Since 1981 we have been monitoring the air quality in the Junction triangle area. We are monitoring for sulphur dioxide, carbon dioxide, ozone, dust particles, fluorides and hydrocarbons. We are monitoring for a whole series of chemical contaminants that, frankly, are not being monitored anywhere else in the entire Metro Toronto area to the same extent as they are in that area.

**Mr. Wrye:** He is not a big leadership threat, is he?

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Thank you, Mr. Treasurer. I appreciate that.

May I address the question the member raised with respect to the reports on the specific odours which my staff have indicated publicly would be released by April 4? At the very best, at this time, as I indicated to the member when he first raised the question, we have nothing more to go on than circumstantial evidence. My staff did immediately respond to the particular emission that occurred. In fact, we may be able to determine where that glue-like substance emanated from.

That was the member's question to me during question period, and I responded as honestly as I knew how, which was simply to say we did not have the facts before us and we were continuing with our investigation. I still cannot stand in my place and tell the member with absolute certainty that we are going to be able to pin a rap on one particular company in that area for the impropriety of the particular emission that occurred.

The member indicated again during the comments he made this evening that we are not taking any action in the Junction triangle. We have put control orders on companies in the Junction triangle. We have worked on a compliance basis voluntarily with companies in order to control the emissions and the difficulties that are caused by a normal industrial operation.

The member indicates we do not have any concern with the environmental controls there. But does he know that at the present time we have a very active committee in that area that involves the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labour, the city of Toronto, my own ministry and



community groups which are meeting on a regular basis and are trying to have some positive input into correcting what I admit are problems that occur from time to time?

Rather than raising allegations about chemical contaminants such as polychlorinated byphenyls, which the member brings up all the time with no other purpose than to scare people in that particular area—

**Mr. Ruprecht:** Allegations? People are getting sick.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I listened to the member.

**Mr. Wrye:** Stay on the high road then.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I am trying to stay on the high road. I wish he would.

The reality of the situation is that the medical officer of health has indicated the level of contamination for the PCBs that were found at the Canadian General Electric site was not of a level that was going to cause any health difficulties. Why does the member not tell that to the people? Why does he not tell them that although there is a problem there, the problem is under control? All I would ask is that the member deal honestly, in a forthright manner and on a fair basis with this very sensitive and important issue.

The House adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

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# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Thursday, March 29, 1984

Afternoon Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Thursday, March 29, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## ONTARIO WOMEN'S DIRECTORATE

**Mr. Wrye:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, which concerns my rights, which as a member I feel have been infringed upon: During the course of my research into equal pay for work of equal value, to which the government and the Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch) will know the government is theoretically committed, I found that the Ontario women's directorate is no longer making available its publication Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value. It has, in fact, only a federal and provincial paper, usually discussing it—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. That has nothing to do with privilege.

**Mr. Bradley:** It is a point of clarification like the answer yesterday.

**Mr. Speaker:** No. Order, please.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### FLOOD PLAIN POLICY

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, as the House knows, we are currently developing a new provincial flood plain management policy for Ontario. I would like to touch on some of the background of this issue and then bring members up to date on where the matter stands.

The aim of our provincial flood plain policy is twofold. We want to provide the most appropriate level of flood protection to the people of Ontario and we want to encourage a co-ordinated approach to the use of land and the management of water.

We know total immunity from flood damage is impossible. We all know we have to accept some risks in our day-to-day lives. To determine the appropriate level of protection, we must weigh the potential risk to life and property against the social and economic needs of the community and individual property owners.

If our criteria are too high, valuable land could be adversely affected. If our flood plain criteria are too low, however, flood damage in the province could increase, not to mention the adverse tangible and intangible effects on

people's lives. We have to strike a careful balance in making decisions about flood plain management. As Minister of Natural Resources, I have the responsibility of ensuring that we take reasonable precautions to avoid unnecessary and unacceptable risks and costs.

Flood plain management in this province has evolved over a period of more than 30 years. If we look back I think we can be proud of our track record in Ontario. Ontario is one of the few jurisdictions in North America where flood damage is on the decline. As members know, however, the nature of flood risk varies from area to area and depends on many factors such as the depth of flooding, the velocity of water flow, shape of the flood plain and the type of urban or rural development.

Recently, concern has been expressed that the flood lines in some locations in Ontario do not accurately represent the risk of flooding and that the process of implementation is not flexible enough to account for unique local conditions. In some cases, the concern was that the criteria were too high and they presented an unnecessary hindrance to development on flood plain lands.

To help deal with these concerns, I appointed a committee to conduct a public review of the government's proposed flood plain management policies. The committee was chaired by the member for Prince Edward-Lennox (Mr. J. A. Taylor).

From this public review process, I wanted an assessment of the concerns from a broad spectrum of perspectives. The committee included municipal representatives, a consulting engineer and real estate and insurance specialists, as well as a representative from a chamber of commerce.

The review committee travelled throughout Ontario last fall. It conducted 15 public meetings and received some 300 written submissions from the public, municipalities, conservation authorities and others with an interest in flood plain management. I am pleased to be able to table the committee's report in the House today.

I think this House owes the review committee a large vote of thanks for the valuable work it has accomplished. The committee has made an important contribution to the process of develop-



ing an integrated flood plain management policy for Ontario. As honourable members will see, the committee's 13 recommendations are wide-ranging and challenging.

One of the recommendations suggests that a minimum standard for flood protection be established for Ontario. This criterion would be based on a flood level that has a probability of occurrence of once every 100 years.

I believe it is appropriate that we head in this direction. However, I should stress two things very strongly. The first is that flooding problems can best be managed on a watershed basis. We would support changes in the existing criteria only with the consent of the vast majority of municipalities within a specified watershed. The second thing that must be stressed is that we will not support the lowering of flood protection criteria in any part of Ontario where the past history of flooding reveals that higher criteria would be more appropriate.

I want to assure the House that I do not intend to let the issue drag on too long. Flood plain management policy has a very high priority within the Ministry of Natural Resources.

I hope we will be able to reach consensus on this issue as we move towards a final decision about flood plain management in Ontario. To expedite that process, I am today sending copies of the report directly to all the municipalities of Ontario, to the 39 conservation authorities and to all the groups and individuals that submitted briefs to the committee. The report will also be made available to the general public in the district and regional offices of my ministry.

I have asked for written comments on the report within 90 days. Once I have received these comments and once I resolve some of the other issues raised by the committee, I anticipate the proposed new policy will be drafted quickly.

I also anticipate the draft policy will undergo further review before it is implemented. The final provincial flood plain policy will be developed and issued under subsection 3(2) of the Planning Act.

Before that can happen, however, we need to deal with several important issues. First, we must define the various roles, responsibilities and accountability of different government agencies—the municipalities, conservation authorities and the provincial government. Second, we must define the responsibilities of the private sector in flood plain management—the role of individuals, real estate organizations, mortgage companies and insurers. Third, we must define the criteria and the framework within which flexibility in

flood plain management can be exercised. Fourth, we must ensure that technical and professional people in the field work to increase public awareness and understanding of flood plain issues and their potential hazard, as well as programs which are implemented.

**2:10 p.m.**

The other subject I would like to bring to the attention of the House deals with the administration of conservation authorities. Recently, some discussion has occurred with representatives of the conservation authorities regarding the processes they follow in carrying on their operations.

My objective in this is to improve public awareness of the activities of conservation authorities and the manner in which their decisions are made at that level. Therefore, I will be requiring modifications to these administrative procedures, focusing on such issues as providing member municipalities and the public with advance notice and the agendas of authority meetings; ensuring that minutes of meetings are available to member municipalities and the public, and improving public access to the information contained in authority documents such as engineering reports and maps.

Also, in the near future I will be discussing with conservation authorities a more active involvement of all authority members in the decisions related to their ongoing operations. This process will ensure that through their appointed representatives all member municipalities will actively participate in the authority. I have noted in recent years that several authorities have moved away from having their executive committee as the main decision-making body. I will be encouraging other authorities to pursue this same approach where feasible.

In summary, I believe it is in Ontario's best interests to arrive at a solution to flood plain management that everyone can live with. The government has taken major steps towards resolving the issue, but there is still much work to be done. Water is perhaps Ontario's most precious and abundant resource. It has made a lasting and valuable contribution over the years to the quality of life in Ontario and it continues to play a vital part in our daily lives. The government is taking steps to ensure that water and Ontario's other important natural resources are managed wisely on an integrated basis.

The report I have tabled here today is an important part in that process.

I would like to read the names of the review committee into the record: the member for Prince



Edward-Lennox (Mr. J. A. Taylor), chairman; Cameron Jackson, Burlington; David Murray, Cameron; Murray Berman, Chatham; Ian Hill, Niagara Falls; Norman Leigh, Fort Erie; Joseph O'Brien, Toronto, members; and Stephen Janes, London, consultant.

#### NATURAL GAS PRICING

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring the House up to date on matters relating to natural gas pricing in Ontario.

The prices we pay for natural gas, not to mention crude oil, are of vital importance to the Ontario economy. Ontario's total bill for oil and gas from western Canada will be about \$9 billion this year. Clearly, price changes of even small percentages can have significant effects on Ontario's economy. This western oil and gas represents the largest share of Ontario's total energy bill of \$13.3 billion. In contrast, Ontario's wholesale electricity bill is about \$3.6 billion.

With this perspective in mind, Ontario has argued consistently over the years that oil and gas prices should reflect Canada's own circumstances rather than be dictated by the situation elsewhere. Our economy functions in a very open global environment and we must remain competitive.

In the 1960s and 1970s Ontario industry paid natural gas prices that were somewhat lower than in the United States. This is no longer the case. Over the last year, in the aftermath of the 1983 reductions by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the natural gas industry in the United States has cut its prices. American gas producers have accepted lower returns. Their pipeline companies have developed special transportation tariffs and other arrangements. Distributors have developed market retention programs. American regulatory agencies have shown flexibility in permitting market-sensitive pricing.

What this adds up to is that many competing industries in neighbouring states can now buy natural gas for \$1 to \$1.50 per thousand cubic feet less than they could a year ago. This has not happened in Canada. On the contrary, wholesale prices are about the same and returns to producers have risen. This uncompetitive pricing threatens jobs in Ontario. With our industry still struggling out of the recession, uncompetitive natural gas prices are counterproductive to that recovery.

We were encouraged by the announcement of the governments of Canada and Alberta in June 1983 that they would consider incentives to

market natural gas to eastern Canadian industry. Such incentive prices could be a clear step in the right direction.

Ontario has urged that any industrial incentive pricing arrangement should be directed at both attracting new sales and maintaining current levels of sales. The Alberta government has proposed an incentive pricing scheme that offers a significant discount for new sales to large-volume customers; however, for existing sales it offers a discount substantially lower. Both the size of the proposed discount for existing sales and the proposed process for its implementation do not reflect the objectives Ontario has sought.

During this period of discussion with Alberta, a federally sponsored task force on the petrochemical industry has reviewed the state of that industry and has issued its report. One of the important recommendations of the task force is for an immediate reduction of industrial natural gas prices by 15 per cent, or 60 cents per 1,000 cubic feet. As well, the Ontario Energy Board has confirmed that United States and offshore competitors of Canadian industrial gas users have access to natural gas priced significantly lower than is the case in Ontario.

In addition, the Ministry of Energy has been conducting an informal survey of large industrial energy users throughout the province and has been continuing its monitoring of the US natural gas scene. These reviews confirm that Canadian natural gas prices are too high.

The Ministry of Energy is convening a major seminar in May involving industrial natural gas users to examine just this problem. Over the coming months we will be broadening our discussions with gas users in the province and our surveys of US markets in preparation for discussions expected later this year on future natural gas prices.

The current pricing arrangements between Canada and Alberta expire in January 1985, and new natural gas prices will have to be agreed on that reflect the market circumstances I have outlined. In the meantime, steps can be taken to give credible signals to industrial gas users that natural gas will be priced more competitively.

In our discussions we have suggested a substantially larger discount to existing industrial sales than had been proposed by Alberta. We feel this is needed in order to provide a credible market signal. By way of comparison, Alberta's proposed discount for current sales is less than 20 per cent of the price reduction called for by the petrochemical industry task force, and the proposed discount is only a fraction of the



increases in the Alberta border price for natural gas over the past eight months alone.

I am continuing to urge that an incentive pricing scheme be implemented which provides a credible signal that prices are moving in a direction that reflects current market realities. As well, in order to complement a realistic industrial incentive pricing scheme, we suggested to Alberta that we would propose legislation that would ensure that Ontario natural gas distributors could be more flexible in their pricing of natural gas to industrial users.

I am most concerned that progress to date has been slow both in the discussions between Ontario and Alberta and in the separate discussions between Alberta and the federal government. The federal government and the governments of producing provinces are also discussing natural gas export prices. Canada has already implemented two price cuts for export prices in order to help maintain the level of sales to these markets. Further reductions that might result in the pricing of Canadian gas exports below domestic gas should not proceed. The priority should be to reduce our own gas prices to levels that reflect current market realities.

We have the opportunity in Canada to adjust our gas prices to reflect our abundant supplies, the circumstances of our domestic manufacturing industry and the needs of natural gas producers, both large and small, for a fair share of the revenue from sales of this vital Canadian energy resource.

2:20 p.m.

#### FIRE SAFETY IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** Mr. Speaker, today I am tabling the report of the Public Inquiry into Fire Safety in Highrise Buildings in Ontario.

Honourable members will recall there were a number of tragic high-rise fires in the fall of 1980 and the winter of 1981, most of which occurred in the United States. One, which was in this jurisdiction, caused six deaths and 67 injuries. Considerable concern was expressed as to the safety of high-rise buildings and the public's understanding of proper procedures to follow in the event of a high-rise fire emergency.

To ensure these issues were adequately addressed within the legislative and educational framework, a public inquiry into fire safety in high-rise buildings in Ontario was established.

His Honour Judge John B. Webber was appointed commissioner on June 30, 1982, and was asked to consider evidence within the following terms of reference:

1. To assess the dangers to which occupants are exposed when a fire occurs in a high-rise building;

2. To assess the public's understanding of the action that should be taken in the event of a fire and evaluate the need for public education programs, and to assess the public's perception as to whether occupancy of high-rise buildings is especially hazardous, and if so, why;

3. To assess the value of fire safeguards required by law;

4. To examine the effectiveness of fire prevention inspections conducted in high-rise buildings by public and private agencies;

5. To recommend changes to laws or practices and procedures and make such other recommendations as may be appropriate with a view to improving the standard of fire safety in high-rise buildings.

The inquiry attracted a great deal of attention within the fire and building community, and I know the report will be read with great interest. I have asked the fire marshal and his staff to review the recommendations and advise me of considerations respecting implementation.

The inquiry received the evidence of 75 witnesses. Many of these witnesses were highly qualified in the field of fire safety, both nationally and internationally. The inquiry also received 93 written briefs, and 316 exhibits were filed. A total of 67 hearing days transpired over the inquiry period between November 1, 1982, and June 6, 1983.

The inquiry dealt with many issues, including the actual review of high-rise fires in Ontario as well as outside the province, which were considered of assistance in arriving at the final recommendations.

The report is prepared in two volumes and involves issues arising from the terms of reference and legislation. The inquiry reviewed four types of high-rise buildings: apartment buildings, hotels, offices and institutions. Each has different occupant and building characteristics as well as fire safety systems.

There are 129 recommendations contained in the report. Some of the recommendations have application to fire safety in general and are not limited to high-rise buildings. There are also some recommendations on matters which can be controlled only by federal legislation or action.

The report is comprehensive and deals with the issues of fire safety in high-rise buildings from the perspectives of both building design and use, and considers the new and old building stock within the province.



I am certain the task carried out by His Honour Judge Webber was not a simple one but was achieved in an effective time frame to be useful for deliberation and implementation. I want to take this opportunity to thank His Honour for his concern and dedication and to commend him for the excellent quality of his work. I also want to thank all those people who participated before that commission and those people who worked as staff of the commission.

I am pleased to receive the report. I am certain it will be of benefit to the citizens of this province in the years to come. I am pleased to table it before this Legislature.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps we could have the co-operation of all honourable members in limiting their private conversations. Then we could all hear the statements.

### CHILD ABUSE

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, you will recall that on December 14 the leader of the New Democratic Party asked me to review comments by the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps) and the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea) in regard to the confidentiality of information in the child abuse registry.

The Ontario Provincial Police questioned the member for Hamilton Centre, the minister and a number of other persons. The police report was reviewed by senior crown law officers in my ministry. Because of the particular circumstances of this case, I did not personally participate in the process, preferring to leave the matter to the police and my senior crown law officers.

The senior crown law officers and the police have concluded that there are no grounds to lay charges in this matter. I have reviewed their reports, and I agree with their opinions. I am attaching a memorandum from the Assistant Deputy Attorney General for criminal law to the Deputy Attorney General which deals with this matter and its conclusion.

### ORAL QUESTIONS

#### VISIBLE MINORITIES

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. The minister is apprised now and has probably seen a copy of the federal all-party committee report entitled Equality Now, which deals with visible minorities in Canadian society. I am sure the minister would be the first to admit, as would every member of this House, that there is much

progress to be made in our treatment of visible minorities in Ontario. Would he consider recommending the appointment of an all-party committee of this Legislature to look at the recommendations of the federal committee and determine the applicability of some of those recommendations to our situation in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, it is not correct that I have seen a copy of the report as yet. Just as I was leaving my office today to come here, I received some briefing notes on the report, which I hope to be reading over the weekend. At this time, though, I cannot comment too much on the report. The question that has been asked by the Leader of the Opposition is one I will be pleased to take under advisement.

**Mr. Peterson:** While the minister is considering this over the weekend, given the fact the Ministry of Labour has no official affirmative action programs—granted, there are some through the Ontario Human Rights Commission, but there is nothing official in his ministry per se—given the serious recommendation in the report Equality Now pertaining to youth unemployment and suggesting that resources and emphasis on youth programs must be a top priority among our visible minorities, and given that echoes the comments of his own race relations commissioner, Dr. Ubale, in his report Working Together, calling for greater commitment from government to attack this most serious of problems, will the minister take it upon himself to discuss with the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) the question of unemployment among our visible minorities and suggest to him and, it is hoped, get his positive response that there be some specific programs in the budget in the not-too-distant future designed to deal with the problems of visible minorities and youth unemployment?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I would not want to leave the impression that this subject has not already been discussed. There is a cabinet committee on race relations chaired by the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry), and those matters come under almost constant scrutiny by that committee.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the minister would agree at least to take this tiny step, namely, to discuss with the Attorney General, who is the chairman of the committee on race relations, the possibility of our beginning to gather statistics in Ontario, the information we need, to find out how serious the situation is with respect to unemployment. Many of us feel and believe that the unemployment rate, for example, among black young people in the city of Toronto



and the metropolitan area is very high. There is a perception in that community that discrimination exists and needs to be dealt with. That is a perception we in our party share.

Can the minister at least undertake to table in this House any information the government now has or is compiling with respect to the existence of discriminatory practice in terms of the effects of unemployment on different groups in our society?

2:30 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I believe some of that information is available. I know it is being worked on. I will have to check to see what progress there is and how close it is to completion. I will certainly look into that and advise the honourable member accordingly.

This might be an appropriate time to mention some programs that have been conducted during the past two summers and will be conducted again this summer by the race relations division of the Ontario Human Rights Commission. The programs have been highly successful in the Jane-Finch area.

I have been fortunate enough to attend the closing—I would not exactly call them ceremonies, but a time when we can assess the success of the program. All the boys and girls are brought in and given appropriate certificates. It is a very heartening experience. In another year, I see nothing wrong with inviting the Leader of the Opposition and the leader of the third party to attend. They would have a first-hand look at some of the positive steps that are being taken in this respect.

**Ms. Copps:** Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, it is not enough for the minister and his government to run poster campaigns of black women in wheelchairs. That is certainly not the answer this government needs. If it wants to look to the private sector, I think it has to start by looking in its own backyard.

Some months ago, it was suggested by this party that the Social Assistance Review Board, which has direct, visible contact with people across this great province, should consider a greater representation of visible minorities in its appointees. What kind of response has the government had to the suggestion that was made by this party some months ago regarding the appointment of more visible minorities in its own boards and agencies, including the Social Assistance Review Board?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer that question with explicit percentages or figures, but I know that is certainly a consider-

ation of our ministry any time we have an opportunity to appoint people to boards and commissions.

**Mr. Speaker:** New question; the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have an extremely important question for the Premier (Mr. Davis), who I understand either is in the precincts or will be here shortly. I beg your indulgence to stand down that question for his arrival.

#### COUNTRY PLACE NURSING HOME

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health, if I could have his attention for a moment. The minister will be aware that over the last year members of our party have been raising problems concerning nursing homes in general. In particular, we have been raising issues concerning the Country Place Nursing Home.

Charges were laid against that home on March 21, 1984, after a couple of inspection visits by the Ministry of Health, after some correspondence I had with the minister, after a visit I paid to the home on January 31, 1984, and after a press conference at which a number of nurses' aides talked about conditions at the home.

What is the minister intending to do about the fact that one of those nurses' aides has now been fired by the owner of the home and two have been suspended for six months? What protection is the minister going to offer those workers who had the courage to come forward and talk about conditions his inspectors themselves found in their inspections?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to clarify the sequence of events for the benefit of the honourable member.

In case the member may have been implying something different, I wish to point out that the inspections upon which the charges are based certainly preceded his press conference. In fact, the charges themselves were in preparation prior to his press conference. Had I not been away at the time, they probably would have proceeded prior to his press conference, but because of my absence, they were temporarily held up.

At this point, I am not aware, other than by word of mouth, of the events to which the member refers with respect to the nurses' aides. I assure the member that if he can give me any further details with respect to names of individuals, I will be glad to check into it further.

Obviously I am very much concerned if the legitimate complaint of a staff member leads to



his or her dismissal, but it may not be within my jurisdiction to deal with that. It may be something about which I might consult with my colleague the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay).

**Mr. Rae:** I have written to the Minister of Labour about it. He suggested I ask the minister, and that is why I am doing that.

The minister will know that under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, a worker who complains is provided protection. Similarly, under the Employment Standards Act, someone who complains with respect to noncompliance with that act is protected. Can he explain why someone who is working in a nursing home and has a genuine complaint about the quality of care that is being provided has no protection under the Nursing Homes Act with respect to making that information public?

Why is the minister not in there protecting the workers who have had the courage to come forward and talk about the conditions under which they are having to provide care for the senior citizens of this province?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** I suppose the answer to that is quite simple, and the member would not tax himself too heavily in guessing what the answer might be. It is simply that it is probably not a situation that has arisen frequently in the past. Now that an incident has occurred, I think it should be looked into and consideration given to some protection being provided.

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, the problems that finally resulted in charges being laid against the owners of this nursing home were first identified nearly a year ago. Under the government's system of having privately owned nursing homes inspected by the ministry's nursing home inspectors, why does it take almost a year—

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** If those members who would like to converse with the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) would please withdraw, they could carry on their conversation privately.

**Mr. Cooke:** Why does it take almost a year for the Ministry of Health inspection branch to take action against a nursing home when the violations have been documented and complaints have been handed in, not only by staff but also by Concerned Friends of Ontario Citizens in Care Facilities and members of this caucus? Why does it take almost a year for the ministry to take action against the owners of these homes?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member were to check a little more carefully, he would probably find that incidents

that occurred a year ago would not be capable of giving rise to charges now. I cannot give a detailed report on each individual incident at this point, and I do not think it would be appropriate since the matters are before the court.

As the member might well be aware, there have been instances that might well date back for a year. Under the act there is a provision for compliance with the regulations and very often compliance is achieved. Then subsequent inspections may reveal, as in this instance, that there have been further violations, which would then give rise to a charge. The incident would not have been outstanding for a full year, because an inspection a year ago would not be capable of sustaining a charge at the present time.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Women's Issues, the Deputy Premier.

Given the fact that there are overall 245 employers—not 245 companies, as stated in the speech from the throne—who are supposedly part of his program, can the minister confirm that only 39 of these employers are prepared to go public with respect to their being involved in the program?

Six of these are federal companies that are not even in the provincial jurisdiction, such as Air Canada and a number of others, 16 are boards of education and seven are municipalities. This means that only 10 private companies in the entire province even will let their names be given out publicly. That is 10 out of a total of 216 private companies that have affirmative action programs.

With that kind of record with respect to the private sector in this province, how can we possibly gauge the progress of the minister's alleged voluntary affirmative action program?

2:40 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, I know the leader of the third party does have a list of the names of those who have agreed to public disclosure. I assume it is the same list I have, so his information would be correct in that regard.

Second, I do not agree with the leader of the third party that this is necessarily any indication of the success of the program. One of the conditions under which we deal with these major employers is that they know we are providing a consulting service and they are prepared to utilize the resources we have and to implement this program.



I do want to correct one other misunderstanding that I may have left the last time we had the opportunity to talk about this. I underestimated the success of this program. I talked about 33,000 women being involved; that number should have read 311,000, so perhaps the record should be corrected. Approximately 311,000 women in the province are covered by affirmative action measures outside the Ontario public service and a further 28,000 women are covered by the government's own program.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, we do not know how many clothes this emperor has on at all; there is no way for us to be able to gauge or assess exactly what the nature of this alleged program is. There are no clear criteria, there are no ways of assessing, there are no standards set out in any form of legislation and there is no basic criterion attached to it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** Is the minister aware that we have been in touch with a number of companies that we have reason to believe are on his list? At the T. Eaton Co., a company of which I am sure the minister has heard, the employee relations officer, who I am sure is busy these days, said, "We have no formal program," but, "We are doing the types of things that such a program would do," though he was not prepared to give any details.

Another company said it does not believe in reverse discrimination; it has no formal objectives, no targets, no committees, no different recruitment policies and no training specifically directed to women.

Just what are the companies doing that are involved in the minister's alleged program? If I may say so, he covers a very small percentage of the women in the work force and, of those who are covered, he is not even prepared to say exactly what the program is and what the heck it is doing.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, I am quite convinced we are providing leadership in this province as an employer ourselves, and the record speaks for itself in that regard; we table our reports.

As to other major employers, and I am talking about major employers outside the Ontario public service, we are providing this leadership role; we are providing a consultative service.

I have no way of commenting on the results of the member's survey of particular companies and I am not at liberty to discuss firms other than those that have agreed their involvement in these programs can be publicly disclosed. One of the

conditions of our working in the private sector is that we respect confidentiality; I am satisfied that this is very important. No doubt when we have the debate which will centre on the member's bill, we will have an opportunity to expand on this.

If the honourable member is trying to suggest, and I am sure he is not, that we are in any way satisfied with the results to date, we are not. There is a long way to go. That is why the speech—

**Mr. Martel:** Share the results with us.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I am trying to be restrained today. I promised my wife I would not get upset any more with the member's questions and I am trying to be restrained. I have not finished yet, either.

I want to point out to the member that we are far from satisfied. That is why the speech from the throne talks about an accelerated program with respect to affirmative action.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** The member had better have his running shoes on to keep up with this side of the House, because we are going strong on this program.

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, one of the aspects of the minister's affirmative action program has been within the school boards of the province. Some have complied and some have not. I know the minister will be speaking to the board chairmen and to the directors of education later tonight at an affirmative action conference he is co-sponsoring.

The minister's speech, as he knows, comes against a backdrop of amazing progress. The number of elementary school principals who are women as opposed to men has gone from a ratio of six to one in 1972 to seven to one after 10 years of his kind of progress. That is not my idea of progress and I do not think the women educators of this province think it is much progress at all.

Can the minister stand in his place this afternoon and give us some indication of what kind of specific demands he is going to make of the school boards tonight? Is he going to specifically order them to implement affirmative action programs? If so, what targets is he going to insist they meet over the next five years?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, to tell the truth, I happen to have some notes right here which I am going to share with them. It might be fair to restrain myself and let them have the benefit of these comments this evening.



During the course of my remarks tonight, I am going to explain what affirmative action really means in Ontario. Among other things, I am going to tell them in a very quiet, well-reasoned way, because they will be very intelligent people who will understand that a constructive—

**Mr. McClellan:** Tell us in a whisper; we won't tell anyone.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Whisper in my ear.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** No, I would not want there to be any misunderstanding.

A constructive and positive affirmative action program is a series of activities implemented by an employer to identify and correct systemic discrimination; that is, policies and practices which have a disparate and negative effect on certain groups such as women and tend to assign to them limited roles in the work place. That is what affirmative action really means in that general context. I am going to make some very positive suggestions with respect to what I think they could do in that particularly influential area of public responsibility.

**Mr. Rae:** The government has been running around this province for eight years with a program that has absolutely no substance at all. They are the laughingstock of everybody who has looked at this issue. We have information on three more companies we have reason to believe may be on the so-called list of 216. We are not sure. We do not know. We have no way of finding out.

Let me tell the minister about Acres Consulting Services Ltd. The personnel administrator told us: "We have had a program for 10 years. We do not have an actual program policy statement or action plan and we do not have any training programs, but we do have a program."

We understand the Canada Life Assurance Co. is on the contact list. We talked to the personnel administrator and she says, "We do not have, nor in fact have ever had, an affirmative action program."

We spoke to the personnel representative of General Motors, who said: "We do not have a formal affirmative action program. We have no policy statement, no target and no distinctions are made on training programs. We do have a women's advisory committee to provide opportunities for women but that applies only to salaried personnel."

This program the government has been trumpeting is nothing short of a fraud. Can the minister deny that and can he prove with statistics that we are wrong and he is right? If he cannot, he has no credibility on the issue.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** This is a very positive program. As I pointed out to the member, we have been working very conscientiously as an employer to put our own house in order before we went out to talk to other major employers. Perhaps the leader of the third party and the Deputy Premier could come to some understanding this afternoon. Perhaps he could give me his telephone list in advance and as he calls various representatives of the private sector, he might let me know he is calling and then we could follow up with a letter indicating we would be very glad to provide some information.

I have no idea, consistent with my responsibilities, whether he is talking to people who are part of this number or not. It is obvious he must not be. He would do us a great favour if he would agree we have a common objective in mind, equality of access and advancement in the work place, so we could continue to work together dealing with major employers, convincing them of the great advantages there.

It is better to have somebody who is doing that by way of a voluntary response than to do what the member would do in the economy of this province, start moving in with a heavy hand, pushing people around and intervening. We would rather provide the leadership, the advice, the encouragement and then move forward. Watch our progress.

**2:50 p.m.**

**Mr. Peterson:** If that man could hold a portfolio longer than seven months, he would be the front runner to be successor to the Premier (Mr. Davis), instead of a follower.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

SHELL CANADA LTD.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a very serious question for the Premier. Can he confirm reports that, either as a result of a corporate reorganization of Shell Canada or a switch of the head office from Toronto to Calgary, there will be a net loss to Ontario and to Toronto of some 1,000 jobs?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I can neither confirm nor deny that.

**Mr. Peterson:** A couple of years ago the government purchased a \$650-million window on the industry. Presumably the Premier would be the possessor of some information on this question at this time. What is he doing to protect Ontario's interests?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I do not know whether that is really a supplementary. I, too, have read the



press reports and we will certainly be finding out what substance there is to those press reports.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, has the Premier or the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) had any advance notice of any kind, any prior notification of any kind, with respect to the decision by Shell Canada? If not, does he not think it about time the workers of this province, the employees who are going to be affected, to say nothing of the public of this province, get some notification from these large companies that move around without any regard to the impact it has on entire communities?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I think one is making a premature judgement here. I have been asked by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson) if I have any knowledge of this. The answer to that is no. When we find out, I shall inform the members of the House.

**Mr. Peterson:** It is absolutely outrageous that the Premier is not informed about this issue. If he is denying he was informed I will accept that, but I will not accept that he is not party to public information that is sweeping through the press and that everyone else knows about. This issue is serious. I want to know what he is doing as Premier and what initiatives he is taking to protect Ontario's interests now.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I can only repeat what I have already said to the member. I can assure him the government will ascertain the degree of substance in what has been published in the press. He asked me whether I had been informed and I say, simply, no.

#### INCOME TAX REFUNDS

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations. He understands that at this time of the year many citizens are filling out their income tax forms and are looking forward to getting refunds from the income tax department.

The minister will recall that a few years ago when there were abuses in this province, this Legislature passed legislation prohibiting tax discounters from charging the taxpayer more than five per cent of the refund. The minister will further recall, and I think it was in 1979, that the federal government occupied the field and brought forward legislation called the Tax Rebate Discounting Act. Under that legislation he is aware that, unfortunately, the deduction could be as much as 15 per cent of the refund.

Would the minister advise whether he has received complaints from citizens' groups and associations pertaining to the operations of, in

some cases, very reputable firms that end up charging that full 15 per cent and, in the process, charge interest that sometimes exceeds what is called a criminal rate of interest under the Criminal Code, which is something more than 60 per cent?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, as the member points out, it is true that back in 1977, in the absence of a federal presence in this area, this government passed legislation which limited the amount that could be discounted to five per cent plus the cost of preparing the income tax report.

When the federal government occupied the field in 1979 under the legislation the member spoke of, the amount that could be kept for so-called discounting of the tax form was 15 per cent, to include the cost of preparing the form. I guess we could debate what the actual amounts are, depending on how large and intricate the preparation was.

The specific question was whether or not we have had any complaints. To the best of my knowledge, we have had very few. Those we have had we have referred to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs in Ottawa.

By and large, people have made individual decisions that they want cash now, rather than waiting for an indeterminate length of time and rather than going to the bank and borrowing some money to replace the refund. I have not had a large number of complaints indicating that any inappropriate type of usury might be seen by the public as taking place, but I would be interested in any complaints the member has received.

**Mr. Roy:** Possibly I could forward to the minister some of the complaints I have had from various groups.

The minister will understand that very often the taxpayers involved, who are anxious to get the refund, are low-income citizens. I was surprised, and I am sure the minister will be, that in many instances the refund, involving child rebate, etc. under the act, including some provincial credits, involves substantial amounts of money.

Would the minister advise whether he is aware that 15 per cent, for instance, of \$1,000 or \$1,200 involves something like \$150 or \$175 for sometimes just 15 minutes' work, which is the service component of this charge?

He might also advise whether there has been any attempt by his government or any discussions with the federal government to see whether financial institutions such as banks, credit unions, caisses populaires, etc. might be in a position to offer part of this service and, in the



process, advance these people some of the refund they are looking forward to, which in many cases is very necessary, but at least advance it at a reasonable rate of interest. This does not happen, I am told, with many of the firms which are preparing income tax returns and the so-called tax discounters.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I have not had discussions with any financial institutions as to whether it was appropriate for them to get into this area. Frankly, I would have to seek advice as to whether it was an area they should get into. I would be pleased to have some discussions about that issue with members of my staff.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could bring to the minister's attention some of the information I have been gathering around the province on this matter. There is a whole new business starting up, parasitic, in my view, on the poor. They are the ones who are using this the most. They cannot afford to wait for that money to come back.

We have Bentax, as it is called. We have H. and R. Block, which has now grown from just a few groups to a company competing for this huge business; I am talking about somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$50 million countrywide. I am not really sure of the figures, but that is the kind of stuff we are getting back.

I had one welfare worker in Windsor tell me there was no one on her case load who had not gone to such a firm—no one. That was in February. Just as the member for Ottawa East (Mr. Roy) was saying, it is a matter of about \$150 getting chopped off of a crucial \$1,000 which those people need.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** I would implore the minister to do two things. One would be to talk to the federal government right now about changing that 15 per cent and having a sensible kind of discount, like five per cent or something like that. That would not encourage this practice.

I also suggest that perhaps our own savings offices and other provincial institutions might make this money, which is the only money these people are expecting as a tax rebate, available to them ahead of time on a much reduced kind of scale, or for no cost at all, as a basic service to people now living in poverty.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated, this is an area that was entered by the federal government in 1979. When they did so, we abandoned it because of the legislation passed by them.

The first question is whether or not the amount being charged is a fair or an unfair one. Frankly, that would vary from month to month and year to year, depending on the interest rate one might have to pay to borrow a proportionate amount of money. If there seem to be a significant number of complaints that the amount is excessive, certainly I am prepared to have those discussions.

**3 p.m.**

### PICKET-LINE HARASSMENT

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Solicitor General. Is the minister aware of the latest chapter in the use of goons on a picket line to provoke violence such as has occurred in Marshall Industries in Rexdale? Has he been made aware of the use of cameras, walkie-talkies and an armoured vehicle, a virtual tank, to cross the picket lines? Does he know about the arrest of workers in that line?

Given the long history of violent strikebreaking that we have been raising in this House, particularly for the last two years, will the minister now move immediately to remove Max Security, the strikebreaking firm involved in this explosive situation?

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** It shows how the minister is on top of things.

Is the minister aware that the president of Max Security is Peter Downing, who is the brother of Paul Downing and Keith Downing, well known in the strikebreaking industry in Ontario? Can the minister not understand that the government's inaction in the Securicor case, still not resolved since last June, has meant the continuation of a vicious strikebreaking cartel in the province?

We have mentioned the interconnection between Brown Security Services, Max Security, Dependable Driver Service Ltd., KIPPS and many others. It has meant there is a free hand, or an open season, on workers in the province, particularly as we have seen in the recent Federal Packaging and Partition Co. Ltd. case and now at Marshall Industries. Is this the government's policy or is the minister prepared to stop this passive acceptance of strikebreaking goons on picket lines?

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** I do not accept any of the allegations made by the honourable member about the activity of this particular government. Wherever there has been a violation of the legislation that governs security firms, we have proceeded with the charges resulting from the



violations. The member has mentioned one that is at present before the courts.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** It has been a year now.

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** Mr. Speaker, I hear the member making objections to "a year now."

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind the interjections.

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** The courts and the procedures before the courts are proceeding with no regard to any delaying factor whatsoever. They are taking their normal course. I am sure the member would want the law to be upheld in that regard and to preserve the law as we know it in this province. They are following the law as prescribed.

On the other part of it, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) introduced legislation in this House in the previous session that took care of and will take care of many of the instances on which the member has remarked. This government has 40 years of remarkable history in relation to labour legislation, unlike the comments and allegations the member has made.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, I find it hard to believe the Solicitor General can look aside when these kinds of security firm violations are going on at the same time as his ministry is prepared to bring a heavy heel down on a so-called security firm by the name of Pet Find, which employs two people, one welfare recipient and one unemployment insurance recipient, who, to get themselves off the welfare rolls of this province, set up a system to look for pets. They have been determined to be a security firm under the ministry legislation. Why the light hand on the one case and the heavy hand on two individuals who are basically looking for cats and dogs in the city of Hamilton?

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** Mr. Speaker, I will answer the question, but I do not believe it is supplementary.

In the situation the honourable member has asked about, there has been an application by the individuals. They are conducting a business according to the definition under the Private Investigators and Security Guards Act; thus they need to be licensed. I am sure that member, like the other member, would ask the individuals conducting this business to conduct themselves within the law and legislation of this province.

#### COMMERCIAL FISHING

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to question the Minister of Natural Resources about the commercial fishing industry. My colleagues the members for Kent-Elgin (Mr. McGuigan),

Halidmand-Norfolk (Mr. G. I. Miller) and Huron-Middlesex (Mr. Riddell) are also very deeply concerned about this matter.

The Minister of Natural Resources has now imposed quotas on the commercial fishing industry. What explanation can the minister give for procrastinating all winter long and then announcing a system of quotas at the commencement of the fishing season when he knows very well the difficulties, financial and otherwise, this will cause? What happened to the promise the minister made in London when he implied no one would be forced into bankruptcy by his policies?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, the modernization of commercial fisheries has been going on in this province since 1978. My predecessor, the late James Auld, began the process of direct negotiation with the Ontario Council of Commercial Fisheries. In the fall of 1980 he set out in writing to the commercial fishing industry the direction in which he intended to proceed.

A modernization report authored by a joint committee of the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ontario Council for Commercial Fisheries was issued in 1982 and recommended individual quotas. Subsequent to the issuance of that report, I embarked on a process of discussion and consultation not only with the Ontario Council of Commercial Fisheries, but also with individual processors and fishing groups in various parts of the province. I travelled to Picton, Port Dover, Wheatley and up to the Owen Sound area. I also had deputations in my office at the request of the Ontario Council for Commercial Fisheries. We engaged in negotiations over the fall months of 1983 to get a fix on the policies under which quotas would be individually allocated to commercial fishermen.

As I indicated in London, Ontario, in January in a speech to the annual meeting of the Ontario Council of Commercial Fisheries, because of the intervention of that council, we have two equally important criteria for assessing individual quotas. The first is conservation of the species and the insurance that we would have perpetual yield harvesting in place in every body of water in the province. The second is the principle of the economic viability of the industry and its individual operators. Those two principles were considered equally in arriving at quotas in the Great Lakes systems and in the inland waters of the province.

I also indicated we would be changing the process this year for individual commercial fishermen so they would not have to reject their licence in order to appeal the quota. We extended



the old licence system for commercial fishermen in Ontario for a two-month period from January 1, and many of them went out and fished. I indicated we would be setting individual quotas as of March 1 and communicating with commercial fishermen.

That communication is now in place. Commercial fishermen can accept the quota or they can object to the quota and still fish under the quota assigned to them. They can go to the Game and Fish Hearing Board in an expeditious way and have the quota reviewed, based on the two principles of economic viability for the industry and the individual operators and of conservation of fish species.

I should add that, as a result of the last six-month process, the total lake allocations of specific species in most of the Great Lakes have been substantially increased. I think when the individual operators get together they will agree—

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you. I do not remember that question being asked.

**Mr. Mancini:** We have just received a lecture from the minister instead of an answer to my original question. The minister well knows that for commercial fishermen to be viable they have to be able to work with the banks. The fishermen and processors have not been able to consider the exact effects of the quotas over this winter because they were only received yesterday and this morning. Meanwhile, they have been negotiating with their financiers for the oncoming season. As soon as the bankers find out a commercial fisherman does not have enough quota to meet his payments at the bank, the demand loans will be called. The minister has not taken into consideration these important matters.

**3:10 p.m.**

Would the minister consider accepting the resolution passed by the Lake Erie Fish Packers and Processors Association, which represents 16 Ontario companies, that the new quotas or measures he has offered be used only as a basis of discussion for implementation in the 1985 harvest year, with the oncoming negotiations to be concluded by October 31? If he does that, then the industry, instead of being in absolute chaos as it is now, will obtain some stability and these people can make some sound business decisions.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** First of all, a commercial fishing licence does not flow with bankruptcy or foreclosure proceedings, as do timber licences in this province. If the banking institutions think that by foreclosing on small sawmill operators or on commercial fishermen they can obtain com-

mercial fishing licences, they are wrong. Those assets do not flow.

**Mr. Mancini:** They will not be able to pay; that is the long and the short of it. Under the ministry quotas they cannot pay their debts.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** We have been discussing numbers with the commercial fishing industry for two and a half years. The quota for yellow perch, which is of concern to the member and which the warden of Essex county, Mr. Miner, raised with me yesterday on behalf of individual commercial fishermen, is 9.8 million pounds. The catch of yellow perch on Lake Erie in 1983 was 5.3 million; the catch in 1982 was 9.186 million; the catch in 1981 was 8.335 million. In effect, we have allocated more than the catch of yellow perch in Lake Erie in each of the last three years.

We established 9.8 million, knowing that 12 million pounds of yellow perch had been caught in 1980 and 1981 in Lake Erie, because there is only a viable 1982-year class of yellow perch in Lake Erie according to all the biological information. That caused us to reduce the quota from 11.5 million to 9.8 million.

We have made decisions on the basis of, first, economic viability and, second, the conservation of the fish resource of the province so it can be harvested on a sustained basis by commercial fishermen in the future.

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, can the minister confirm that a lot of the information used to determine quotas for commercial fishermen on the Great Lakes was based on catches in the past that were related largely to market conditions rather than to biological information? Would he confirm that a lot of the quotas have been set without adequate biological research being done in order to justify them?

If that is the case, is he prepared to buy back licences for operations that are no longer viable as a result of the implementation of the quotas?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member can provide me with information on licences that are no longer viable because of this exercise in the last three months, I would like to see it. Secondly, the member knows, just to take Lake Erie yellow perch again, that the average of the reported landings from 1976 to 1982 was 7.6 million pounds; so he cannot say we set a limit of 9.8 million on the basis of market conditions. That did not happen.

#### RENT CONTROL

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and



Commercial Relations. The minister will be aware that under section 134 of the Residential Tenancies Act, tenants of the government are exempt from rent review.

Is the minister aware that the Ontario Land Corp., which is the landlord for a number of tenants in the North Pickering area who are not in rent-geared-to-income accommodation, has given a number of these tenants rent increases over the last two years of up to 20 per cent? Does the minister think this is fair at a time when private landlords are held to six per cent without rent review and when public sector workers have been asked to restrain their wages?

Secondly, does he expect the Thom commission, whenever it gets around to reporting, to examine this issue, and is he prepared to look at this exemption of tenants of the government when they are not living in rent-geared-to-income units?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, from the previous discussions we have had I do not sense that there has been any criticism of either the process or the effort put into the Commission of Inquiry into Residential Tenancies by Mr. Thom; so I do not take that from the member's question.

I have been advised that Mr. Thom has been working diligently on what will be a very comprehensive report. I expect to have the majority of that report some time in April, with further reporting to come in the summer. However, the bulk of it will come some time in April. That will be phase 1. Phase 2 deals with a great variety of other matters. I suspect part of the question the member has asked me relates to that phase.

I would have great difficulty in responding to the statement the member made with respect to the Ontario Land Corp. in Pickering without having greater information about the facts. As the member knows, by and large, that would not be a process which would be involved in generating any profit-making motive. Therefore, I will have to review the facts before commenting on whether or not I think there is any unfairness or inappropriateness in the rents which are being charged.

On this side of the House we have always felt—and I gather this is an issue Mr. Thom will be looking at in phase 2 of his report—it was important to have a portion of the market not subject to rent control in order to provide an incentive for the continuation of the building of residential accommodation in this province. Certainly, some of the studies I have looked at would support that premise. That has been the

position we have taken. It is my understanding that Mr. Thom will be looking at that in phase 2 of his report.

**Mr. McClellan:** Since the minister mistakenly felt I was not criticizing the Thom commission and since he responded with respect to the timetable of the Thom commission, let me ask him whether he remembers that when he appointed the commission in November 1982, a year and a half ago, he said, "I have asked the commissioner to make his report at the earliest possible date and to pay particular attention to two burning issues: the issue of costs no longer borne and the issue of the absence of a rent registry to enforce action against illegal rent."

Can the minister explain to this House why the Thom commission has failed to publish a single interim report, contrary to the minister's statement of November 1982? Why has it failed at least three times to meet promised deadlines with respect to the phase 1 report? The minister has given us another deadline today with respect to part of the phase 1 report.

We still do not know when we are going to get answers to the questions of costs no longer borne, rent registry or section 134. Perhaps the minister can tell us what the so-called phase 1 1/2 is. Why did the Thom commission fail to complete its assignments in phase 1? It is now engaged in something called phase 1 1/2 and then it will get into phase 2. When are we going to get answers to some of the questions, or does the minister really not want to see these answers? Is he simply putting off the day so that he does not have to address all the issues outstanding under his rent review legislation?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I gather I was erroneous in my first response when I assumed the member did not intend to be critical. I find his comments with respect to Mr. Thom and the Thom reports not only offensive but absolutely unacceptable. I was not going to raise any of this, but the member knows very well I had a preliminary report from Mr. Thom in December. I spoke to the member about it, and he, I and the critic for the Liberal Party agreed it should form part of a larger report, and it will. For him to stand up in this House and make that kind of accusation does him no service.

**Mr. McClellan:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, just so we are clear: The minister made promises he failed to keep.

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, given the fact that the government, through the Ontario Land Corp., has control of these rents, does the minister not think it is somewhat inconsistent to ask the



private sector to limit its rents to six per cent or go to rent review and yet permit the government's own bureaucracy to go ahead and increase those rents by anywhere from 10 or 15 to 50 or 70 per cent?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, the circumstances with respect to the rental of those premises differ greatly and vary from premises to premises. I have said it would be inappropriate to respond to a general question such as that without knowing the specific facts and issues. I have said I would look at those matters.

**3:20 p.m.**

#### BRUCE ENERGY CENTRE

**Mr. Sargent:** Mr. Speaker, this question was for the Premier (Mr. Davis), but since the Minister of Energy is here, I will try him.

I have long heard that during election campaigns the Tories will promise to build bridges where there are no rivers, but those things are peanuts compared to what is happening in the Bruce development area.

We in Bruce county are facing the catastrophic effect of losing 5,000 jobs, as against the 1,000 mentioned today, at the Bruce nuclear development. The Premier promised to take up the slack by forming the Bruce Energy Centre and that it would be a reality by the end of 1984. On the promise he made, the county of Bruce has acted in good faith and has given full co-operation to make this a reality.

It is of paramount importance that the minister finalize this immediately, through his ministry and through the Premier's promises, or we will lose the benefit of seven years of research and planning. The government has been offering this carrot for two elections. If the Premier and the minister are sincere in their concern for jobs, they will save the many jobs we are talking about. As I said, they have been using this bait for two elections now.

Is the minister playing games with the lives of thousands of families, or can I tell the warden of Bruce county and the 31 municipalities involved that signed this resolution that he will meet with them and put this major project in motion?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I have not received an official copy of the resolution the honourable member refers to, but I am delighted he is finally acknowledging the considerable government initiatives taken in his riding. The member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Elston) will want to acknowledge those considerable government initiatives as well.

The question surrounding the Bruce Energy Centre at the present time is whether one proceeds to prebuild a pipeline without a commitment from a customer to buy the steam at the other end. The government, in its wisdom and in its proper stewardship of the taxpayers' resources, felt that while a search was going on for customers for the Bruce Energy Centre it was appropriate that some guidelines be put in place to govern the time of building the pipeline and the flow of moneys from the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development to Ontario Hydro to supplement that project.

The Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) and I have met with representatives from that area. We will be discussing this matter at the next meeting of BILD.

**Mr. Sargent:** You can lead a horse to drink, but you cannot make him water.

**Mr. Speaker:** Or something like that; now for the question.

**Mr. Sargent:** The question is, what the hell are we supposed to do? I wish the Premier were here. Ballard could use these guys as stick-handlers.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think it would be more appropriate if you addressed your question to the minister.

**Mr. Sargent:** They put through the Bruce county official plan amendments, the township secondary plan, the Bruce Energy Centre plan of subdivision, so they could be fully approved by 1984, according to the government's promise. We are going to lose about 5,000 jobs there over the next few years. The minister is supposed to have something in place for it.

**Mr. Speaker:** And now for the question.

**Mr. Sargent:** Either he is telling the public of our area a bunch of lies, or he has to do something positive.

Interjections.

**Mr. Sargent:** I will stand by that. At this point it is not the truth.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** I will not comment on the use of language by the member. I can only assure him that the commitment was made by this government and that as the projects proceed forward, as Ontario Hydro proceeds to develop customers for the steam from the pipeline and as the various other restrictions are removed—those restrictions revolving around zoning changes, environmental assessments and matters relating to things other than the construction of the pipeline—that commitment will be followed.



## NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, I rise under section 28(a) of the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly to inform the House that I am not satisfied with the answer given by the Minister of Natural Resources concerning the important issue of commercial fishing and that I wish to speak to this question on the adjournment of the House this evening.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: I will be in Sudbury at a moose forum tonight.

## GRANT TO HAMILTON

**Mr. Epp:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: This morning three members of the Legislative Assembly were in Hamilton as members of a task force on assessment, and on the eve of our arrival there the minister announced a grant of \$1.5 million to the Hamilton region and the municipalities. The members of this Legislature should be aware of the fact that it was more than coincidence that this grant was announced yesterday just before we arrived there today.

I think the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps) and the member for Wentworth North (Mr. Cunningham) should be aware of this and should be thanked for their efforts, because I think the people of Hamilton are indebted to them for their efforts and for their representation.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, just to correct the record for the member for Waterloo North—

**Mr. Roy:** Tell us about your personal expenses.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, I trust the member for Waterloo North is not opposed to the government's making these special allocations to communities that have higher unemployment rates than the average. He forgets we not only announced it for Hamilton, which we were delighted to be able to do through the member for Wentworth (Mr. Dean) and those from that area of this province, but also did it for the Niagara Peninsula, down through St. Catharines and up into the Sudbury area for some 40 communities in this province. I trust the Liberals will take the opportunity to see that we do look after those municipalities that require looking after.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** No. That was not a point of order, with all respect.

**Mr. Epp:** The government must be in chaos somewhat because of the fact—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Petitions.

Interjections.

**Ms. Copps:** Even the regional chairman agrees you are in chaos.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Do you want to carry on this conversation outside?

**Mr. Roy:** No. We want a statement from—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** I should not have asked the question.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

## PETITIONS

EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF  
EQUAL VALUE

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, which reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition is signed by a number of residents of the riding of Beaches-Woodbine, which I represent, and by residents of other parts of Metropolitan Toronto.

3:30 p.m.

**Mr. O'Neil:** Mr. Speaker, I have a similar petition I would like to present. It is signed by approximately 150 teachers in my area. The signatures were collected by the members of the status of women committee of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation. It reads:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of



occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition addressed to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario which reads in similar fashion to the petitions already presented. It is signed by a number of teachers who are residents of the riding of Windsor-Sandwich and other ridings in the Windsor and Essex county area.

### INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

**Mr. Cunningham:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition that has been sent to me from Calvin Christian School, which is a very fine, independent Christian elementary school in my constituency.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"We appeal to the Legislature to provide form and substance and law for the basic human right of parents in Ontario to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

"The present education policy provides no guarantees for the existence of independent schools that are one of the concrete expressions of this basic parental right. Parents of children at these schools also face a form of financial jeopardy through a lack of access to the taxes they pay in support of education. We ask you to change this situation."

I support this petition.

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### ELECTION ACT

Hon. Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. McMurtry, first reading of Bill 17, An Act to revise the Election Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, this bill is substantially in the same form as Bill 153, which was introduced in this House in December. There are a few technical changes which I will outline when we begin second reading.

#### YONGE-ROSEDALE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION ACT

Mrs. Scrivener moved, seconded by Mr. Villeneuve, first reading of Bill Pr14, An

Act respecting the Yonge-Rosedale Charitable Foundation.

Motion agreed to.

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. McMurtry moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Wells, first reading of Bill 18, An Act to amend the Justices of the Peace Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, the subject of legislative assurances of the independence of justices of the peace has been under review by my ministry for some time now in the light of various initiatives we have undertaken in relation to the Justices of the Peace Act, including the very important Mewett report and in the light of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Justices of the peace have long enjoyed complete independence in relation to their adjudicative functions. However, it seems desirable in the light of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to incorporate into legislation the independence which has existed in practice. The issue of the independence of justices of the peace has been litigated twice since the charter came into effect.

In the spring of 1983, Mr. Justice Smith of the Supreme Court of Ontario ruled that Ontario's legislation concerning justices of the peace provided the required degree of independence. Last fall, the same issue was argued before Mr. Justice Ewaschuk, who reserved his decision following the conclusion of argument on October 20, 1983.

I feel it would be appropriate to proceed with certain matters now in the light of our view that they are improvements which are desirable regardless of what the courts ultimately find to be required as a constitutional minimum under the Charter of Rights.

Accordingly, I have introduced a bill to address the major issues concerning the independence of justices of the peace. Because of the importance of this matter and the noncontroversial nature of the amendments, I will be asking the bill be given expedited passage.

This legislation will have no effect on the actual case pending in the courts; it will have no retroactive effect.

#### PLANNING AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Swart moved, seconded by Mr. Philip, first reading of Bill 19, An Act to amend the Planning Act.



Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, this bill will provide the means to ensure priority in preserving Ontario's best agricultural land for food-growing purposes.

#### EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. T. P. Reid moved, seconded by Mr. Mancini, first reading of Bill 20, An Act to amend the Employment Standards Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, the intent of this bill is simple and long overdue. It would entitle employees to see their personnel records and to have errors or omissions in their personnel records corrected. At the moment, only about 30 per cent to 33 per cent of people are unionized in this province and even they do not have that right unless their collective agreements provide it.

3:40 p.m.

I draw the members' attention to the Consumer Reporting Act, which gives consumers the ability to see their credit reports. I think it is fundamental for employees to have this opportunity to have access to these personnel files to see what their supervisors and others have put on those records. I am sure the government House leader (Mr. Wells) will agree that in the spirit of freedom of information and access to that information, the Conservative government will accept this bill.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, at the adjournment on Tuesday, March 27, I was just concluding my description of a trip taken a couple of weeks ago to the Soviet Union. I was describing to you and to the many interested members of the House the purpose of the trip.

I will not go over the details to any great extent, but as I conclude my remarks I want to bring to your attention, sir, that I and my fellow travellers, if I may use that phrase, were visiting and wanted to show our personal concerns for those citizens of the Soviet Union who have applied for emigration visas and have been refused. They call themselves refuseniks, and are

generally known as such over the world. Most of them are Jews who have applied to join their families in Israel, although there are some Germans, Armenians and perhaps some others who have applied and have been refused.

As I was completing my remarks, I pointed out that during the last years of Comrade Brezhnev's leadership, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics allowed the exit of about 50,000 of these applicants. With the change in leadership following Mr. Brezhnev's death, Mr. Andropov and his administration closed down on this, so practically no one was allowed to emigrate under those circumstances.

I think you are aware, sir, that the applicants for emigration are usually subject to substantial harassment. Many of them lose their employment. Their children also suffer by being refused admission to schools and often being forced out of senior educational opportunities.

In many cases the results were quite tragic, but the people we met maintained a good deal of optimism because they realized the approach taken by the government of the USSR tends to be cyclical. They hope that in the near future the attitude will change and the present 30,000 to 50,000 refuseniks will have an opportunity to emigrate, as is their desire.

We should point out that the USSR, like Canada and most other nations, is a signatory to the Helsinki agreement which guarantees these human rights for individuals in all nations.

We also are aware that some years ago in the United States, Senator Jackson's noted amendment to one of their statutes encouraged the trading powers and privileges of nations having human rights and civil rights at a certain standard. Actually the veto of this particular matter by the present President of the United States has, in some small measure, played a role in the changing Soviet attitude.

In closing my remarks I want to say that we had an opportunity to meet a number of these refuseniks. We were very impressed by their own optimism and their ability to cope with life under very difficult circumstances.

In determining what we might do, as four people from Canada visiting the USSR and particularly visiting these individuals, we have come to the conclusion there is little of a concrete nature we can do to assist them in the short term. We feel it is important that we, as people with some political responsibilities, have met them personally and know of their concern.

As the members are aware, this House has an ad hoc committee on Soviet Jewry. It was under



its auspices that I travelled to the Soviet Union and undertook these meetings.

At the same time I should point out that one of my travelling companions was the chairman of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, Canon Borden Purcell. He naturally had some special responsibilities as well, as a senior servant of the people of Ontario, with very important duties to respond to both here and, in his view, on a wider stage.

I should also point out that Rev. Stanford Lucyk, the senior minister at Timothy Eaton Memorial Church in the city of Toronto, was another member of the delegation, and Ms. Charlotte Gray, a member of the press gallery of the Parliament of Canada, was the fourth member of the party.

We came to the conclusion it was at least worth while for us to meet these people and do everything we could to bring their plight to the attention of people such as yourself, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues in this House and anyone in this jurisdiction who has the interest to respond.

I also believe the fact that Soviet officials did not interfere in any way with our travel and our attempts to meet these people on a personal basis may be an indication of some lessening of the more oppressive attitude that was characteristic of recent years.

Members might be interested to know that a similar delegation involving members of the Parliament of Canada did feel to some extent harassed during its visit. I am glad to report we certainly did not experience that during this recent visit.

It is also valuable for the refuseniks themselves to know that in other countries they have friends and people who are concerned about their livelihood and safety. From time to time the plight of these people has been raised in this House, usually specifically by name when individual refuseniks have been subject to a fairly severe penalty from the USSR courts. We can perhaps be of some assistance in getting their early release or, to some extent, lightening the load that would normally be placed upon them under these very difficult circumstances.

It is necessary that we as politicians try to persuade people in government who may respond to our views that whenever they deal with members of the government of the Soviet Union or with the eastern bloc, they should bring to their attention our concern with the plight of the refuseniks. Particularly at the higher levels of national governments where individuals meet on

a one-to-one basis, there is no doubt it would be extremely useful if the members of the Soviet government were made aware of our continuing concern about this matter.

I also believe it is essential that all of us work for the cause of détente and disarmament. There is no way any of us would not be prepared to enlist ourselves in that cause, with the proviso naturally that we in the west as citizens of Canada certainly do not want to do anything less than our share in the defence of our nation and in the defence of our cause. It is essential that we should be knowledgeable of the views of the other half of the world, the eastern half of the world, which has a different economic system, a different education system and perhaps a different outlook on life and its quality.

I was interested to talk to a number of Soviet citizens who drew to my attention that under their method of government they not only have free medical care and free education at all levels to the point that an individual can benefit from it, but they also have the advantages of a society where there is no unemployment. We might very well want to argue and discuss that, but from their point of view it is true there are not people who are unemployed.

Another footnote to that is, I suppose, the very large size of the Soviet Union armed forces, which number something in excess of 12 million. As one walks down the streets of the Soviet cities, one sees almost as many men, and to a smaller extent women, in uniform as we would see in our own communities during wartime. They have accepted their responsibilities as citizens in that way with the continuing draft of large numbers of young people.

**3:50 p.m.**

The thing that did concern me to a great extent was the fact that there tends to be a substantial degree of ignorance on both sides in the attitudes of the citizens, the common people one meets as travellers. I have often felt the answer to many of our world problems lies with the education, in the broader sense, of our young people. I have often urged the appropriate minister, for example, to undertake a broader student exchange program with families and young people in Quebec. To some extent that is taking place. The mobility of young people in our own country is something we ought to concern ourselves with.

In a broader field, I would like someone in the government to consider the possibility of establishing a reasonable number of scholarships for young people who would be supported by public funds in travelling to other jurisdictions in the



world and in broadening their understanding of the ways of life there.

I would say immediately there is no sense in even considering that unless we are going to send young people who have at least a reasonable working knowledge of the language of the nation to be visited. This would surely include Japan, but in my own arguments right now it must also include the Soviet Union.

Our dealings with these people and our relationships with them so often, in my view, are slanted by the political and propaganda considerations that are so much a part of government emanations on both sides of the east-west confrontation. Working for détente, encouraging our young people to inform themselves and establish connections across the Iron Curtain, is not entirely unrealistic and naive and, in my view, in the long run perhaps is our best hope.

Mr. Speaker, in closing my remarks, I want to report to you that to some degree I felt the experience on behalf of the ad hoc Ontario Legislature Committee on Soviet Jewry was an extremely useful one. It is my aim in the months and years that lie ahead to work on the special knowledge and experience I have gained, to work on behalf of relieving the cases of the refuseniks and to promote détente and international understanding to the extent of my ability.

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take part in the debate swirling about the throne speech.

What bothered those of us in this party about the throne speech was not its vagueness—we expect vagueness from any throne speech—but rather the promises or declarations made which indicate a real concern and interest in the whole question of job creation in the province. We simply do not believe the commitment is there. We believe the commitment does not match the words contained in the speech from the throne.

I am particularly influenced by the community in which I live, where we have a very high unemployment rate. We have had a very high unemployment rate for a considerable time. The response of this government has been to pour money into make-work projects and not to rebuild the local economy.

Two things happened to me in the last two months, neither of which was newsworthy but both of which really struck me. One evening I was visiting the home of friends. A daughter, who is about 21, came in to visit with her boyfriend. She announced in the middle of the

visit that she was moving to Edmonton because she had found a job there.

The parents were quite thunderstruck. I wish I had not been there when this whole thing happened, but I was. The parents became sad and very emotional and tried to tell the daughter to stay in the Sudbury area. She finally said, “You give me a reason for staying in Sudbury.” The parents were at a loss for words.

That really stayed with me because I wondered how often that was happening throughout the community. I know people move—to go to school, to take their first job and so forth—but this move really was not based on choice; it was based on survival. If this young person was going to have any kind of career, she simply had to move. There was no real choice on her part.

The second thing that happened was that I was in my constituency office when a man came in who was seeking employment; he wanted me to help him get a job somewhere. I do not know if members know how difficult it is to help someone get a job in the Sudbury area, but it is virtually impossible. He was very agitated, very hostile and very angry. I was trying to lift up his spirits, telling him to take hope and not give up, and I was meeting with no success. He was very angry and cynical, and he left.

Just before he got up to leave, I noticed that he had a black beard and that his beard was laced with grey. I thought to myself that this was not some young person who was simply trying to find a first job or someone who had been laid off after a year at a place; this was someone who had a major stake in the community. He was in his 30s at least, perhaps even early 40s, and he had been laid off by Inco.

Those two events, neither of which, as I said, is newsworthy or seems terribly significant, really got to me. By the way, the man had been involved in a make-work project and was at that point drawing unemployment insurance, but he knew his benefits would be running out this spring and, with very little likelihood of another make-work project, he was facing welfare; so I could understand his sense of frustration.

In the Sudbury area, as in other places, there are really two groups that can create employment: one is the public sector and the other is the private sector. Since the major layoffs and shutdowns a couple of years ago, the public sector has poured an estimated \$150 million into the Sudbury basin. That is a lot of federal and provincial government dollars.

The regional municipality of Sudbury literally worked its butt off to implement the make-work



programs. For example, last summer there were about 1,300 people, mostly young people, planting grass seed—the greening of Sudbury, we call it. They were doing it by hand, building rough roads by hand to get access to where they would be doing the planting.

I found it very disconcerting to witness this. I could not help thinking of the message of futility we were giving our young people as we sent them out there to plant grass seed by hand on the rocks in the Sudbury basin as though it were back in the 1800s.

**Mr. Wildman:** Or the 1930s.

**Mr. Laughren:** Or in the 1930s, yes. But the public sector has been the one that has poured the money in there. It has reached a point where people look at the make-work projects as their hope. I think we should understand that make-work projects should be a bridge between unemployment and long-term employment, both for the community and for the individuals involved; yet in the Sudbury basin the make-work projects have become an end in themselves. If they are a bridge, they are a bridge to nowhere, because the long-term jobs are not being put in place.

It has become a weird and wonderful world of government grants for make-work projects. I could not help feeling a twinge when I read the paper called the Background, which most of us are familiar with, put out by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Every week they have a quote, usually from some municipal councillor, and the Quote of the Week of March 19 was: “An alderman supported a staff recommendation to hire a grants review officer. Staff indicated that a report would be forthcoming when there had been an opportunity to check into whether or not a grant is available to hire such a grant review officer.”

We really have entered an Alice in Wonderland world when we have people investigating to see whether there is a grant available to hire a grant review officer. That is really remarkable.

**4 p.m.**

I know what the theory of this government is. Along with the federal government, it did put money into the Sudbury basin, but almost all of it was for short-term projects. We have the science centre and it is coming on stream this year. But most of the money that has gone in has been for short-term, make-work projects.

I know the theory behind it. The theory is that if we let the private sector look after employment and let the private sector generate profits, those profits will go into investment. Those invest-

ments will go into jobs that create new wealth, which creates tax revenues for the public sector, which can provide the social and health services we all like to see.

It is disconcerting when one steps back and asks, “To what extent is that happening?” One does not need to look any further than Sudbury to see what has happened in a community where the private sector has generated an enormous amount of wealth over the years. It is in the billions, not the millions.

I looked at the national figures to see whether I was missing something and to see to what extent that theory of profits going into investments and creating jobs was actually happening. I found three things that bothered me.

One was the amount of investment that is going from Canada to elsewhere, that is going abroad. In 1960 to 1969, over that 10-year period, it averaged \$132 million a year. Between 1970 and 1979 it averaged \$942 million a year. In the first three years of this decade it averaged almost \$3 billion a year. The amount of money that is going abroad from profits generated here is skyrocketing. Those profits generated here are not being reinvested here. That should be of grave concern to a lot of us.

The second thing I looked at was the number of mergers. When a company merges or buys another company, corporate cannibalism as it has been called, that does not create new jobs. That is really shifting the wealth around among the major shareholders. The average number of mergers for those same three periods of time was 253 for 1960 to 1969; 382 for 1970 to 1979, and 522 for 1980 to 1983. For that last three-year period, it was much higher. By the way, in 1983 alone it was 608, but it averaged 522 for that three-year period. There was a dramatic increase in the number of mergers, which is not investment to create new jobs.

The third thing I looked at was the figures for profits, what happens to profits and to what extent they are reinvested. For 1983, everybody was telling us the recovery was under way. If one looked at corporate profits, one could make the argument. In 1983 corporate profits were up by 52 per cent in this country, but corporate investment was down by 12 per cent. We have this rather bizarre and unhappy situation in which profits are up by 52 per cent and investment is down by 12 per cent.

What has happened to the beautiful theory of people such as the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) and the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman), who say all we have to do is free up



the private sector, let it get profits and it will make the investments. This is exactly what happens. They invest it abroad, or they merge with some other company or they simply do not make the corporate investments at all. It is distributed in the form of either retained earnings or dividends to shareholders.

The beautiful theory under which these people are operating falls apart when one examines it closely. I am sure it is no different in Sudbury. We are trying to cope right now with approximately a 15 per cent unemployment rate. If it goes lower this year, it will be because people are going off unemployment insurance on to welfare and will not be counted as unemployment insurance claimants. Besides, the surveys that are done for the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission are really unreliable for a community the size of Sudbury.

What I am saying to the government is that if it thinks it can stand back now, having poured in money in the form of make-work projects for the community, and let the private sector do it, I think it is going to be disappointed. Where is the private sector in Sudbury?

Basically, what has happened in Sudbury in the last few years is that employment in mining has gone down. For example, according to the figures of the regional municipality of Sudbury, employment in the mining industry dropped from 15,700 in 1972 to 11,440 in 1981, a loss of 4,260 jobs. During that same period, employment in other sectors increased by 7,900 jobs. There was a decline in the mining industry and a corresponding increase in other jobs, primarily in the service sector. That is inevitable in our society with the shift to high technology, communications and so forth.

I understand that, but the government has to understand the private sector is not going to pick up the slack. There is no indication the private sector will pick up the slack and create the necessary jobs in the Sudbury community or, for that matter, in a lot of other communities. The government had better start treating the problem in a more serious way than it has and not be content with the make-work projects.

That is why about a year and a half ago my colleague the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) and I prepared a document we entitled *A Challenge to Sudbury*, which laid out a couple of thrusts we thought the community should develop. This was after the major layoff and shut-down. We said Sudbury was faced with a choice between two roads: one relied on initiatives led by the private sector and the other on deliberate

economic goal-setting and coherent economic planning. We knew Sudbury could once again be capable of economic growth, but we were not so sure it could be capable of economic development. There is an enormous difference. We have had spurts of growth in the Sudbury basin for years, but it has never been what I would call economic development. There is an enormous difference between those two terms.

We felt if we were going to turn Sudbury around and make it the kind of community we think it should be and which it has a right to be, it would mean more government involvement in providing the leadership, some joint ventures with the private sector, and Sudbury doing some things on its own as well. We decided to divide our proposal into two parts. One was on how to get more out of the nickel and other minerals there now. We recognize there is still an enormously wealthy ore body there, the best in the world. The other part was on how to break away from so much dependence on that ore, to launch ourselves as a community into some new initiatives.

We relied mostly on government documents and reports. That is where we got our information. We have never been accused by anyone of having fancified any goals or projects for the Sudbury area. We sent copies of our document to all the leading players in the Ontario and federal governments, and we have not received a single reply telling us our proposals did not make sense. No one told us there was anything wrong with our proposals. I guess they recognized their own hand in the proposals since that is where a lot of them came from.

We started by saying we wanted to create an integrated nickel complex in the Sudbury basin. That comes from a 1977 Ontario document entitled *Towards a Nickel Policy for the Province of Ontario*. Since the present Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope) was the minister then, he probably remembers that report. That 1977 report was a very fine report which has never been repudiated by the government. On the other hand, it has never taken any action on it either. It is worth while to read some of the precise language from that report.

**4:10 p.m.**

It recommended:

"That the government of Ontario take the initiative in proposing to the nickel industry and concerned governments that a 'world nickel institute' be formed to obtain, study and publish a wide range of objective information on nickel on



a continuous basis, as is done by the small, low-cost, but successful silver institute.

"Encourage through special Ontario income and mining tax adjustments the adaptation and use of currently idle nickel refining capacity in Ontario and Alberta to refine part or all of that significant proportion of Ontario's mine output of nickel which still goes to Wales and Norway in semi-refined form for refining so as to create jobs in Canada.

"Encourage the refining in Ontario or Canada of the byproduct platinum group metals from Ontario nickel mines which now all go abroad for refining. Ontario is the world's third largest source of platinum group metals, but after 50 years still has no PGM refinery based on primary feed. This change would create new jobs in northern Ontario or elsewhere in Canada.

"Encourage consideration of direct reduction of nickel-bearing pyrrhotite generated in the nickel smelting process and utilization of the iron pellets in a mini steel plant in Sudbury, thereby creating new industry and employment—perhaps 700 jobs."

Those are some of the precise recommendations. To this date, not one of those recommendations has been acted upon. They are as valid today as they were seven years ago in 1977, if not more so.

We recommended there be established in Sudbury a nickel institute that would undertake a separate, independent geological survey of the mineral resources in the Sudbury region and beyond, conduct ongoing market analysis, obtain and publish other information on nickel, and investigate the prospects for import replacement of nickel-based products and processes.

The reason we said that was that at present Canada exports 95 per cent of the nickel it produces. At the same time, we import an enormous number of manufactured products that have nickel in them, such as stainless steel cutlery, surgical instruments, valves, heat exchangers, dairy and milk products plant machinery, X-ray equipment, gas turbines and parts. We import an enormous amount of products that have nickel in them and we should be manufacturing some of those here. Obviously, we cannot replace them all, but we should be doing some.

Platinum group metals are one of my favourite issues. I think it is ludicrous that after 50 years we cannot refine our platinum group metals here. As a matter of fact, only about 65 per cent of the nickel and none of our platinum group metals are refined in Canada.

The Ontario government has a very neat policy in its Mining Act. Section 104 of the Mining Act says ores should be processed here in Ontario. Then the various Ministers of Natural Resources and Treasurers enter with exemptions. They say, "You can have an exemption to that." For example, Falconbridge refines all its nickel from Ontario outside this country. It has been granted an exemption from January 1, 1980, to December 31, 1989, authorizing the company to ship 100 million pounds of nickel/copper matte per year to its Norwegian refinery.

We are going to be a long time creating jobs in the Sudbury basin and squeezing more out of an unrenovable resource as long as we have a government that grants exemptions to allow companies to ship everything out. It is an absolutely ludicrous policy, and we know it is costing us jobs. It is important that we take a look at that again. The government is always backing off when it comes to the crunch. They never change it.

Then there is the whole question of a new smelter for Inco. Inco needs a new smelter desperately and should have one. It would create an enormous number of jobs during the construction phase. If we did that, after it was completed there would be a reduction of 400, 500 or 600 jobs, depending on which figures we use. But I stress that would only be if the government were so silly and if Inco were not required to do other things with its product. For example, we should have a fertilizer plant in Sudbury that would use the acid; that, combined with the phosphate deposits near Kapuskasing and near Chapleau, would create jobs.

There are other things we should do. One thing we should do is more fabricating. As a matter of fact, that nickel policy document stated there should be a mini steel plant in Sudbury, which would create 700 jobs. Then there is the whole question of the manufacturing of machinery. For heaven's sake, we are the third largest mineral producer in the world and the world's largest importer of mining machinery. Members of the government party should put that equation together and let that rattle in their heads.

I know we now have in Sudbury something called the resources machinery development centre which is not even meant to produce mining machinery; it is more of a marketing agency that tries to get people together and encourages the production of mining machinery in the province and so forth. That is fine, but it is not producing a piece of machinery. What kind of sense does that



make? It is a very lukewarm approach to a terribly important problem.

The resources machinery development centre, since it is already there, should be transformed into a crown corporation that would be capable of joint-venture manufacturing of selected mining and other resource-related machinery and equipment such as forestry equipment. We import a lot of forestry equipment too.

I guess the government is content that we should be an undeveloped country for ever. It just sits there like a lump and waits for the private sector to do it, but the private sector does not do it. The government just sits and sits and sits; it does not do anything. The government members are the laziest bunch of beggars I know when it comes to carrying out government policies. It is a lazy government.

There have been all sorts of opportunities to show some leadership and initiative in pulling together the private sector with the public sector. However, the government members sit there on their haunches and do nothing. They are a lazy bunch of beggars. That is what they are. They are not pulling their weight.

It is getting a little tiring to hear the same excuses for ever that the government will let the private sector do it because, after all, the private sector is the engine of growth in the province. Members of the government should come to Sudbury and make that speech since they are so proud of it. All government members say it where and when it is convenient, but they do not care to use the examples that prove them wrong. I find that offensive.

The next year in Sudbury is going to be a very difficult year. Both levels of government ignore the problem at their peril. I am not cooling the people off any more. When they come into my office angry, I am finished cooling them off. That is the government's problem from now on because the level of anger is rising among the unemployed and the people going on welfare.

Picture a family person who thinks he has a secure job. There is a shutdown that lays off a person with up to eight years' experience in mining. He goes from being relatively well paid to going on unemployment insurance. He then gets a make-work job that does not pay very much, but it allows him to qualify for unemployment insurance for another year. But when he gets that unemployment insurance for the next year, it is based on the lower rate of pay he received on the make-work project. So we know what level of unemployment insurance he is at.

**4:20 p.m.**

I was trying to help a man with three children; his unemployment insurance payments were \$132 a week. Members of the government party sit there smugly and wait for something to happen. A person earning \$132 a week with a family of five has to go and tap the welfare system again. Picture that individual going from a job in the mining industry to unemployment insurance, to a make-work job, to a lower level of unemployment insurance and then on to welfare. What does the government say to him? Does it say to him, "Things are going to be all right; just relax"? No. The government does not say anything to him.

**Mr. Kennedy:** Yes, we do.

**Mr. Laughren:** No. The government does not say anything to him.

**Mr. Kennedy:** Well, I do.

**Mr. Laughren:** The government does not. The member's government has said nothing to those people, who are facing a very bleak future. I really believe it is because the government is lazy. The government will not get off its haunches, get in there and do something. It is doing nothing.

**Hon. Mrs. Birch:** Come on.

**Mr. Laughren:** Let the member for Scarborough East (Mrs. Birch) tell me what it is. The parliamentary assistant to the Premier says her government is doing something. That is typical of that member. She will always say it is doing something, but she will not tell me what it is. We are supposed to have faith that something is happening.

The government members may not like me to say they are simply lazy and content with the existing situation, but I want to tell them that aside from the money that went into the make-work projects, the work that went into that was done primarily by the regional staff and not by the province or the federal government. The region did an enormous amount of work.

I would like to know what the government is doing for the major unemployment problem that exists in that community—and it is getting worse; it is not getting better. When the crunch comes this year—and it is coming, because one cannot forever exist on unemployment insurance and make-work projects—it will be interesting to see what the government's response is then.

In the last couple of years a lot of the make-work money was funnelled through the region. Now we are being told the make-work money is going to be funnelled through the



private sector. Let the government tell me who in the private sector in Sudbury is going to use this money. They could not even use most of the industry and labour adjustment program funding that came into the community; it was not picked up. That is not going to happen.

Unless someone in government says to the decision-makers there, "This is not just an unemployment problem that is going to go away; it is very serious"—well, I digress from my major purpose, which was to talk about what my colleague and I wanted the government to do in terms of the future for Sudbury.

What we said was: "Here is a challenge. We do not expect the government to endorse everything in our document. We do not expect them to give us any credit for these proposals, because a lot of them came from government reports in the first place. But we do think they should do something." It is simply not happening.

That was about getting more out of the nickel there. We also said there are new initiatives in which we should be taking some interest and things we should be doing. We divided that into about four areas too.

One area was energy conservation. We asked: "Why not use Sudbury as a pilot community, as it were?" It is in the mid-north; so a lot of savings can be effected with good conservation, and it would be a good area in which to start.

The government should establish a conservation and retrofit program which would provide low-interest loans to home owners. Under that program, Ontario Hydro would become a major conservation agency responsible for assistance and funding. There is already a natural mechanism there for paying back Ontario Hydro loans by having the loans paid back on the hydro bills. It would be a real natural.

We think we could have created a lot of jobs for relatively unskilled workers or for semi-skilled workers by undertaking that kind of project. But no, even though that would seem to be a very reasonable, logical and energy-conserving move, the Ontario government would not do it.

The second thing we suggested was the rebuilding of the agricultural and food processing sector in the Sudbury basin. The Sudbury district has more farm land than most people realize—the whole area around the French River and up through to Sudbury.

In the area I represent, for example, we used to grow world championship potatoes. There is very good potato-growing land there and other land that is very decent. But there has been a

decline in the amount of jobs in food processing and agriculture in the Sudbury basin. We think that could be regenerated as a new thrust, a new initiative.

Third, I mentioned earlier the whole problem of importing products that have stainless steel in them. One such group is health care products. We have one of the highest per capita health care budgets in the world, and yet we import an enormous amount of the products we use—everything from disposable paper products to stainless steel surgical instruments, bandages, hospital furnishings and so forth.

Already, there is a federal-provincial program called a health care import replacement program. Ontario is a signatory to that agreement with the other provinces and the federal government. Here is an opportunity to do it and to use Sudbury as an example. Yet the government does not do it, even though it is a signatory to the federal-provincial program.

Why not use Sudbury? I know the nickel that would go into it would not be large in quantity, but just think of the symbolic value in using and making a product near where the resource comes from in the first place. We thought the health care import replacement program would be a very good project to launch in Sudbury, whether the public sector had to go it alone or whether it could encourage the private sector to participate; it could be a joint venture. Surely that could be worked out. The government has to try; it has to get in there and muck it up a bit. It cannot sit back and wait for it to happen. Our impression is that the government is not in the game; it is sitting on the sidelines. We felt there could be new manufacturing facilities to do that.

Finally, there should be what we called an institutional import replacement program. That could include anything from furniture to pens, day care furniture, audio-visual equipment—anything that is used in public institutions such as schools, hospitals, municipal and provincial buildings. An enormous amount of furniture is used in those public institutions, paid for out of public funds, yet we import the products that are in them.

What we said was, why not be selective and launch a program in which the government would select certain items? I recall the member for Cambridge (Mr. Barlow) had a resolution or a private member's bill in this chamber where he talked about buying Canadian and replacing imports. I remember that day very well.

**Mr. Stokes:** What happened as a result of that?



**Mr. Laughren:** I do not know what happened as a result of that. The member for Cambridge pinned that "buy Ontario" button on his Hong Kong suit.

**Mr. Breaugh:** I do not hear any denials.

**Mr. Laughren:** No.

Those are some of the proposals we made a year and a half ago in what we thought was a very serious attempt to provide some direction and some leadership in terms of the economy in the Sudbury basin. We have been disappointed.

Lest the members think we were speaking only for ourselves and that we do not have the support of others in the community—I know the members would not say that, but they might think it—let me tell them the regional municipality of Sudbury, which did so much work in the last couple of years in trying to co-ordinate the programs, has put together a package called Towards Economic Diversification in Sudbury Region, dated March 2, 1984. That document contains our report, A Challenge to Sudbury, among other things; it does not just consist of that.

**4:30 p.m.**

The regional municipality of Sudbury also made a report to the federal royal commission on the economy, sometimes known as the Macdonald commission. This is what it said:

"The following represent our general statement on the areas where assistance and detailed development programs are needed to fully realize the economic opportunities and potential of Sudbury and northeastern Ontario."

They had seven recommendations. I am very pleased with these seven recommendations, not because they are close to ours but because they make a great deal of sense, and I would like to read them to members.

"1. Recognition of Sudbury region as the logical national centre for mining technology, with international implications for increased export benefits derived from development and production of mining machinery, high technology and advanced processing."

Do members see what they have in there? They have the production of mining machinery and further processing. That is very good.

"2. Federal and provincial funding for the development of national training facilities in Sudbury for mining and heavy industrial applications, including automated machinery, robotics and computerized technologies."

That is an area we did not have in our report. I wish now we did have a national training centre.

It was hinted at by the federal member, but it has never been delivered.

"3. Realistic industrial development incentives to match incentive programs with local needs, which will result in the development of new business and industry in the region and the expansion of existing industrial and commercial enterprises"—in other words, for diversification.

"4. Recognition of Sudbury region as an important industrial, educational, transportation, medical, recreational, social and agricultural centre for northeastern Ontario."

"5. Centralization of government services in northeastern Ontario by expansion of federal and provincial government support service facilities in the regional municipality of Sudbury." In other words, make it a regional centre.

"6. Utilization of productive land resources and development of potential forestry and agricultural industries through programs of research and funding to assist investors and developers." They are building on the agricultural potential there, and they go on further to talk about forestry, the potential for seedlings and so forth.

"7. Upgrading and expansion of transportation systems and facilities," such as our nearby harbours and intercity rail and air travel.

Those are the seven proposals by the regional municipality of Sudbury, and they flesh them out in the report as well.

**Mr. Stokes:** What did Darcy McKeough say about that?

**Mr. Laughren:** As a matter of fact, when Darcy McKeough was Treasurer he said it would be a long time before there was any economic development in manufacturing in northern Ontario. He was rather gloomy about the whole thing.

In that same report to the Macdonald commission the region said a couple of things that I really liked. They laid it out rather baldly and starkly. They said that for Sudbury there are two alternatives:

"One alternative is to do nothing and let the community adjust as best it can to the ups and downs of the international nickel market. Result: As markets decline and/or as increased mining efficiencies continue to reduce the work force, the population will continue to fall, the local tax base will disintegrate and huge infusions of federal and provincial money will be required to salvage the community." That is one alternative.

"The alternative to that is to diversify the local economy to lessen its dependence on the natural resources industry by strengthening its potential



as a world centre for mining technology and by expanding opportunities in forestry, tourism, government services, health services, educational services and agriculture. Result: A revitalized community capable of serving the regional needs of northeastern Ontario and of continuing to make a significant contribution to the economy of Canada."

Those are the alternatives, plain and simple. They put it very starkly but, I think, correctly. I ask the government, which is it going to be? What is the government going to do? They have their choice: to sit there or to do something. It is plain and simple.

The region said in its brief:

"It must also be stated that our property taxation rate is the highest in Ontario, while the level of municipal services to our residents has fallen far behind those enjoyed by residents in southern Ontario communities. This situation developed from our inability, prior to implementation of regional government in 1973, to tax the mining facilities. Grants in lieu of taxation fell far short of levels necessary to provide adequate roads and public utility services to our communities."

For years we have been trying to get the government to bring in some proper mining taxes that would allow some of that money to stay in the community. Inco itself supported that. It said it would be happier doing that. This government, once again, did not do it.

The government really does have to make up its mind. I would not want anyone to think these are new ideas I am putting out. They might be scared of a new idea. A lot of these things come from the report of the Royal Commission on the Mineral Resources of Ontario and Measures for their Development. Do the members know what date it was? Let me read a couple of statements from this royal commission report.

"The rapid development of our mineral resources is the best means which remains for increasing the wealth of the people of this province. By promoting this, we will attract capital from without, encourage the manufacture of machinery in the province, thereby increasing the consumption of iron and steel, give employment to a larger population which would, in its turn, consume our manufactured goods, agricultural produce and lumber.

"An increased mining industry would, in fact, become the complement of the agricultural, manufacturing and lumbering industries. The railways and the shipping, too, would be especially benefited."

It goes on to talk about machinery. This is from the same report:

"The cost of mining machinery, much of which is not yet made in Canada, is a matter of common complaint with mine owners, as is also the high freight charges on machinery, supplies and ore. But these are losses of advantage which the enlightened good sense and liberality of our governments and our railway companies may be expected to overcome.

"In no other way can a country add more directly to its wealth than by raising and utilizing its minerals, assuming it to possess them in commercial quantities. Not only are manufacturing industries of many kinds created to treat them, but the raw material may itself be said to be created by the labour expended in searching for and mining it. Whatever lessens the cost of raising minerals and whatever facilitates their shipment to the best markets are then most obvious means of aiding the industry. In so far as governments can remove burdens imposed by themselves or reduce the cost of carriage by building or granting aid to build roads or railways, they to that extent make the success of mining operations possible."

I wish I could read the entire report. That is the report of the Royal Commission on the Mineral Resources of Ontario and Measures for their Development, dated 1890. When this government talks about its bicentennial, I really wonder whether it has its policies rooted in the past or whether it is looking forward to the next 200 years.

There we have an 1890 report, more than 90 years ago, saying we should be manufacturing our mining machinery here. We are still not doing it. There is always an excuse.

It is a foolish thing the government does by sitting back and waiting for things to happen. While they may not like it, that is really what they are doing. They seem to think the private sector will pull itself out of this.

In terms of employment, Inco could well become a profitable corporation again. It is quite conceivable and I suspect it will. That does not mean it will solve the unemployment problem in Sudbury.

**4:40 p.m.**

I quote from the regional government report. "In 1981 the Ontario metal mines employed," and I will round off the numbers, "25,000 people and milled 45 million tonnes of ore containing metals worth \$3.3 billion (averaging 1,700 tonnes and \$129,000 per employee)." In other words, each employee in the industry, if one



takes the total tonnage in value, produced 1,700 tons to a value of \$129,000. That was in 1981.

In 1966, the metal mines employed 27,000 people and milled 39 million tons of ore containing metals worth \$2 billion. So in 1981 dollars they averaged 1,437 tons or \$80,000 per employee.

Thus, from 1966 to 1981 the value of ores produced per employee went from \$80,000 to \$129,000; that is more than a 50 per cent increase. While the total employment in these mines in the period 1966 to 1981 decreased by five per cent, the tonnage of ore milled increased by 15 per cent and the value of metals removed increased by 53 per cent.

That is fine. We want more productive mines. I am not whining about the fact that more ore was produced and more ore was produced per employee. I am not complaining about that. What I am telling the government is, if it thinks that just having the two mining companies there profitable means it is going to solve the unemployment problem, it is wrong, because that is not what is going to happen.

The logical thing for a government to do would be to say: "Look, this is a trend. It is clear. It is not arguable. That is what is happening. We had better get in there and replace those jobs." Of course, we had particular problems because of the shutdown, the layoff and so forth. In the last couple of years we have lost about 4,500 jobs in the mining industry in Sudbury.

I moved to Sudbury in 1969. Then, at Inco alone, there were about 18,000 hourly rated employees. I believe there are now about 8,300 or 8,500; fewer than half. We ignore that at our peril.

I know the public sector has picked up a lot of the slack by the different projects that have been undertaken in Sudbury. Because of that massive layoff of 4,500, which is still going on—Inco announced a planned attrition rate of five per cent a year for three years—the government should be moving in.

There are strange things that have happened in the—

**Mr. Stokes:** What did Design for Development say in 1970?

**Mr. Laughren:** We could go back a long way if we looked at all the reports that have to do with Sudbury's problems.

There was a statement in the throne speech that referred to the vitality and health of the mining industry. I am sure that is true of Hemlo, but it does not mean all the mining communities in the province are in a healthy state.

I reiterate, Inco can turn a profit next year but it does not mean we have solved the unemployment problem in the Sudbury basin one iota. They have looked after their problem; they have reduced their work force. I understand the nature of the beast, but surely government then has an obligation to say: "Look, we have to work with the private sector and we have to create jobs. We have to take up that slack."

The government does not have to create meaningless tasks. Surely there can be good, long-term, well-paying, wealth-creating jobs. That is what we want in Sudbury. We do not want the insecurity of make-work projects from year to year. As I said at the beginning, make-work projects are crucial as a bridge to the long-term jobs, but as an end in themselves they are a bridge to nowhere.

I would encourage the government members to put some heat on their leaders in the cabinet and on the Premier (Mr. Davis) to do something. We could have some very nice pilot projects or models in the Sudbury basin, some of which, as I have mentioned, are from A Challenge to Sudbury, while others the regional municipality of Sudbury has recommended.

I did want to say those things during this debate on the speech from the throne because I felt the government's throne speech simply pretended a lot of those problems are not there. They are there and they are very serious.

The community I represent is a community that has contributed an enormous amount of wealth to this province in the last century. I have no way of quoting the figures, but I would be surprised if one could find a community that has produced more new wealth for this jurisdiction than has Sudbury. I bet one could not be found.

**Mr. Stokes:** What did the member for Sudbury (Mr. Gordon) have to say when he moved adoption of the speech from the throne?

**Mr. Laughren:** I do not think he endorsed our document, A Challenge to Sudbury.

**Mr. Stokes:** He never even mentioned it.

**Mr. Laughren:** No. There is a philosophy out there. I remember the provincial member for Sudbury and the federal members from the area, who are both Liberals, used the argument that one had to have a government member for a community to get what it deserves. We have all heard that.

We had the last federal election in 1980. We had the last provincial election in 1981. In 1980, the Sudbury basin elected two federal members, one a cabinet minister. The city of Sudbury itself



elected a government member here. The bottom fell out of Sudbury within a year.

Are we being told, and is it being implied, that there is a relationship between being a government member and what accrues to a community? That is what I heard the members say a minute ago, that there is some kind of relationship between having a government member and the health of a community. Is that true? I am waiting for confirmation of my point. Is it true or is it not true?

**Mr. Kennedy:** You said it; we did not.

**Hon. Mr. Ashe:** The member opposite is saying it.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Robinson):** Order.

**Mr. Laughren:** I just want my question answered. Is there a relationship between the health of a community and the fact that it elects a government member?

**Mr. J. A. Taylor:** You are here.

**Mr. Laughren:** I did not run on that argument. I did not use that argument.

Suddenly they are struck dumb—speechless; I will be generous. They cannot have it both ways on that side. The people on that side run on the argument that one has to have a government member, then when everything falls apart, suddenly the government member is not there to solve the problem.

If one wants to use that argument, Bud Germa, a New Democratic Party member, was defeated in Sudbury in 1981 and the bottom fell out of Sudbury. Which way do the government members want to argue? They have their Sudbury member and the federal government members from Sudbury include a cabinet minister, and look what happened. They should be proud of the arguments they use. I have never been one to lay all the blame on an individual member because of problems in a community.

**Mr. Hennessy:** Watch out.

**Mr. Laughren:** I do not know what the member for Fort William (Mr. Hennessy) is talking about. The point is, I said earlier in my remarks, and the regional municipality of Sudbury said as well, that there is an alternative for Sudbury. There is a choice for Sudbury. If they want to sit down and wait for things to happen—

**Mr. J. A. Taylor:** One has to make things happen.

**Mr. Laughren:** I am glad to hear the member for Prince Edward-Lennox (Mr. J. A. Taylor) say we have to make things happen, but why have they not done so?

**Mr. J. A. Taylor:** Don't look at me.

**Mr. Laughren:** I should not look at the member. He was mugged. He is right; I will not put the blame on him. But someone has to answer.

I am not one who thinks the answer to a community's economic problems is just pouring in tax money. What is required is the economic development of that community, but it is not going to happen on its own. We have 100 years of it not happening. What makes them think it is going to happen now?

**4:50 p.m.**

I would not be so sure it could work if it were not for the nature of what is wrong in Sudbury. If our mining machinery were being produced somewhere else in Ontario or Canada, that would be fine, but here we have a situation where we have a huge domestic market and we import machinery. If we did not have the huge domestic market I would not be making the argument, or if we were not importing it all I would not be making the argument, but with those two combined factors something should be done.

I will not go on any longer but we will be coming back again and again to ask these lazy beggars to do something about the economy in northeastern Ontario because they are simply not doing it. They should not have the luxury of sitting back and saying they will wait for things to happen. That is not their job. Their job is to make things happen. The member for Prince Edward-Lennox said it. Their job is to make things happen. I am not saying they have to do it all themselves, but they do have a responsibility to make it happen.

**Mr. Philip:** They are making things happen; they made a recession.

**Mr. Laughren:** That is not the kind of thing we want to have happen. That is the trouble.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your attention. You have probably paid closer attention to my speech than any other Speaker in this Legislature has ever done, with the exception of one.

**Mr. Kennedy:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have an opportunity to participate in this throne speech debate. I do not accept that the members on this side of the House, or indeed any member who makes it here and particularly if he makes it twice, is lazy. That just is not the way it is. The member knows it. Even they work hard.

**Mr. Stokes:** Just uninterested.

**Mr. Kennedy:** No. We have 125 dedicated people. I am being very generous; too generous.



I want to compliment the chair on the good job Mr. Speaker does. Over the years the job has not become any easier. I see the member from the north, the former Speaker, tuning in and I guess he would agree too.

We have recently had a little item on hockey violence. I happened to be at a junior game where youngsters, including my young grandson, Joey Bond, were playing. It was his sister Amie who was the page here. He played a good game. At this game I noticed the code of ethics posted on the wall. I think it was called a code of ethics, or a code for parents, players, coaches and spectators watching these minor league games. It was very well presented and I think it was put out by the federal fitness people or some group like that.

If those groups I mentioned would reread that, it would go a long way to further cleaning up the game. I do not think it is as bad as depicted. I certainly do not think government should be in the business of making rules for the hockey manuals, but that is not to say we condone hockey violence.

I also wanted to speak of the economy, which is of great interest to me and to all government members. Despite what we have heard, the doom and gloom which is almost predictable from across the floor, elements of recovery are now in place. I see a special role for policymakers this session and this year.

In the House, we have a unique opportunity to make a positive contribution to the recovery.

**Mr. Stokes:** That is what the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren) has been saying.

**Mr. Kennedy:** I agree with him. I do not disagree with that.

This kind of approach is hardly unusual. The Progressive Conservative government in Ontario has always acted constructively. We have always tried to bring together and build on the positive elements necessary for ensuring a secure and properous future for the province.

I must say this kind of constructive participation is not demonstrated by all members of the House. During the past couple of days, especially in the response to the throne speech, I have noticed several tendencies among the members of the opposition that are disturbing to me. The opposition has been negative at every turn. Not that I expect praise; we did not get any praise today from the members opposite. After all, they have the role of critic to play. They jump the gun all the time. If they would wait for these words of wisdom, they would be better off when they leave the chamber at six o'clock.

Interjections.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Kennedy:** It agitates me when they put on this high-minded act, when they question the government's integrity, which has been done, and all in the absence of any realistic answers of their own.

They have chosen to condemn out of hand the initiatives in the throne speech. Both opposition leaders have included amendments in their replies to the speech, condemning the government, to use their expression, for neglecting its various economic and social responsibilities. Those members should reread the throne speech. They might learn a thing or two. They would find reference to a series of initiatives designed to improve the economic and social wellbeing of the people of Ontario. They would see priorities that include assisting young people and women, as well as supporting industries and employees.

If the members opposite took the time to study the contents of the speech they would find measures stressing job creation, skills training, stimulation of the high-technology sector and export development. With respect to exports, members will recall the Treasurer saying in the last budget that the target is \$67 billion for exports within the next five years. The basis of recovery is not more and more government involvement, but rather support for a strong industrial sector.

We have to look at economic recovery as a whole new ball game. I do not think things will ever be the way they were in the heady 1970s. In this regard, the goal of increasing our exports so substantially is on the right track. It would be a major component in recovery, and that goal of \$67 billion is attainable. If we proceed with the vigour this government is known to excel in, it would not surprise me if we surpassed that goal.

I add a warning. Other nations have the same objective. They are pursuing with vigour those countries of the world where there are markets. We must meet that challenge and we can do it because we have the technological capacity. We are well and favourably known industrially around the world. We have a reputation for integrity and for being able to provide high skills, high technology and good products. But I warn that we must move expeditiously towards this goal. There is a huge market out there that could be a major component in our economic recovery. Let us go and get it.

**5 p.m.**

If the opposition members would reread the throne speech they would discover—as would the



media, incidentally—that this government is committed to justice and to the quality of life. The speech states the government's intention to pursue pension reform, to improve children's services and—an issue which is close to my heart—to strengthen law enforcement, streamline the courts and improve services for witnesses and victims of crime.

In this latter regard, I received a response from the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) in which he said he would be pursuing the matter of maximum awards for victims of crime as one of the first orders of business in the new year. I was most encouraged to hear that and I certainly wish him well in speedily providing legislative amendments that will do just that.

The social advances I have just mentioned, as contained in the throne speech, are not the actions or proposals of an irresponsible government. In fact, it seems to me that the defeatist amendments of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson) are totally misplaced in the light of the well thought-out and responsible provisions included in the throne speech.

I say again, Mr. Speaker, look at it; they are in there. There is a base for a major thrust forward towards the recovery of the economy for the betterment of the life of our people here in Ontario.

What disturbs me more than the opposition's partisan criticism is its tendency continually to promote this defeatist attitude towards both the present problems and the future goals. We do not hear much good news from those members; we do hear continually how bad things are and how much worse they are going to get.

This very attitude of negativism will keep the parties of the opposition in opposition for a long time. The first requirement of a leader, in my view, is to spread hope and optimism. The second is to think less about predicting the future and more about deciding what the future should be, and that is what is in the throne speech. My government holds out hope and presents us with a blueprint for future action. The opposition, on the other hand, holds out hopelessness and presents us with round-the-clock alarms.

Mr. Speaker, which position do you think more accurately reflects the spirit of the people of Ontario? I think it is time the negative and destructive views of the members opposite were challenged.

**Mr. Boudria:** Who wrote that?

**Mr. Kennedy:** I dashed it off at noon. It was easy when I thought about the member's conduct in here.

It is time a good hard look was taken at the underlying basis of opposition statements. It is time to point out the ambiguity evident in opposition criticisms and the misleading character of opposition solutions. Most important, it is high time that the present government's beliefs and principles of governing were spelled out in this House in order to dispel the unjust criticism of the government by the members opposite.

Interjections.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Kennedy:** I recall that last year one of the more vocal opposition members from the left side talked about the "abject failure of the government in real moral terms before the people of Ontario," and this is typical from their benches. Other phrases included "moral bankruptcy," "lack of political morality" and "failure to meet ethical responsibilities."

I reject that most emphatically on behalf of this government. They are calling into question the moral integrity of this government. What the New Democratic Party wants to achieve is to impress upon the House and presumably upon the public its own version of moral integrity, humaneness and sense of justice. It will not wash.

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: I wonder if you could direct the member for Mississauga South to give credit to the bishops when he is quoting them.

**The Deputy Speaker:** To reply to the point of order, one of the problems in the last few moments of the debate is that the chair is having a little difficulty hearing what is actually being said. Perhaps the members could help accommodate this, and then we will be in a better position to follow the member's comments.

We all know that inferences imputing motives to any other member are, of course, against our standing orders. I think the same style of debate would serve us all better in referring even to the opposition. Let us make proper points of debate, but let us have a chance to hear what the member is actually saying.

**Mr. Kennedy:** I agree that they would benefit by listening, Mr. Speaker.

To bring home the insensitivity and lack of supposed morality of the government, the opposition has used tactics aimed at achieving emotional effect. We have only to think of the member for Scarborough West (Mr. R. F. Johnston) reading personal letters of misfortune, or the leader of the NDP reciting cases of individually experienced hardship. The NDP is



not the only party concerned about those in need; it has not cornered the market on compassion. That is fact. It simply has not, but from the way it moralizes, one would think it had.

I add some remarks made by the third party that were particularly offensive. They were reported in the press. One was its criticism of nursing homes. To me, knowing something about the operations of nursing homes and acknowledging there are exceptions, the continued criticisms of quality care impugn the reputations of doctors, nurses, volunteers, families and other persons involved in the care of the elderly. I have some experience in that, and in general one does not get more caring people than those looking after the elderly under very difficult circumstances. It is not the easiest job in the world by any means and, in the broad picture, I think they do a good job.

We all know the NDP's solution for a just society. They want justice for all, favouring government decision-making over the workings of the private sector. The solution they claim will lead to recovery, justice and jobs for all can be summed up by calls for increasing government expenditures, reducing taxes among the general population, increasing taxes on business and the so-called rich, and expanding the money supply.

**Mr. Laughren:** What does the member mean by "the so-called rich"?

**Mr. Kennedy:** Just what I said.

**Mr. Boudria:** They want everything to be like Ontario Hydro, in other words.

**Mr. Kennedy:** These solutions are supposed to raise demand and thus, ultimately, create jobs, employment and prosperity. The kinds of solutions advocated by the opposition have already been tried and have been proved to be unworkable.

**Mr. Breough:** By you.

**Mr. Kennedy:** The member should read his former friend Malcolm Muggeridge. I was very interested in reading the late David Lewis's memoirs. I came to the conclusion, as does any thinking person, that socialism is really futile.

A key misconception the NDP has is that giving by the government is somehow simple and easy. One just stands at the corner and hands out the money. The simplistic approach is based on the theory that the province can spend its way out of its economic and social problems. This means spending massive amounts on public works. It also means giving employees pay increases, regardless of the consequences. The fact is it is difficult to give without harming.

**Mr. Breough:** Now the member is misleading us again. He should stop that.

**Mr. Kennedy:** No, I am leading members opposite. It is not easy, but in another half hour or so I think I will convince them. They should listen carefully. For example, if creating jobs is as easy as the NDP would have us believe, we would not have an unemployment problem in Canada or even in the world at all today.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink.

**Mr. Kennedy:** I did not hear what the member for Lincoln just said, but I am sure it was worthy of note. I hope Hansard picked it up for the benefit of the opposition. It takes a great deal of care to give without taking in the long run.

Most serious economists agree this theory of spending simply fuels inflation, which in turn increases unemployment. The resultant cost of government debt in itself further adds to the inflationary cycle. Ultimately, those hurt are the ones on fixed incomes, the elderly and those with lower incomes.

**Mr. Stokes:** Is the member blaming us for the government's deficit?

**Mr. Kennedy:** If the NDP were in charge, there would be a horrendous one. This would have looked Mickey Mouse if the socialists had had the responsibility.

**5:10 p.m.**

During the 1970s public spending was one of the major factors causing inflation, as well as the subsequent unemployment and economic problems in Canada. This spending on the part of governments was well intentioned. There is no denying it, but look at the social costs that confront us today.

The New Democratic Party would have us begin this inflation and unemployment cycle all over again with its plans. The leader of the third party, the member for York South (Mr. Rae), is not always as foolish as some of his policies. He has, in moments of clarity—and I recall some of these—admitted that money does not grow on trees.

When the leader of the New Democratic Party was seeking a seat in the House, I remember a newspaper article quoted him as saying—it was that illustrious journal, the *Toronto Sun*; let the members listen to this: "Governments are going to have to look at ways of increasing their revenues. There is no getting around the fact that it"—meaning money—"has to come from somewhere and deficits have to be kept under control."



Interestingly enough, in the York South by-election he ran under the slogan of "Jobs and Justice," with no mention of the logical consequences of his promises, which were higher taxes. Since his arrival in the Legislature, the leader of the third party has conveniently forgotten his view that government deficits must be kept under control. In fact, when it comes to blind adherence to inflation-causing policies, the NDP is in a class all by itself. Fiscal responsibility is just tossed out the door; it is thrown to the wind.

Massive government spending is an easy position to assume in a platform. It does not take much imagination or courage to throw money around, especially if it is not one's own. It is, however, no solution to our present unemployment problem. This government is not in a position to play to the galleries. We are charged with the responsibility of managing the affairs of the people of this province in a sound and responsible manner. The throne speech reflects that once again.

Our friends opposite in the third party have apparently been unable to absorb the hard lessons that the rest of us have learned over the last few years. They have not come to terms with the fact that events have made their own tired solutions irrelevant. All governments today face similar problems.

In solving these problems, we cannot have a system of distribution alone without considering how to generate the resources to be distributed—and that is a key point in economic recovery. Neither can we reduce all morality of government actions to the morality of distribution. We cannot simply demand jobs without understanding how jobs are created.

The government does as much as it can, but we live in a time of unlimited expectations and limited means, though I think those two elements have shifted somewhat in the realities of the current economy. But government is limited in its capacity to spend to deal with problems, without raising taxes or allowing the deficit to grow. One has to cut the cloth to the suit.

In the view of this government, social problems, such as the high levels of unemployment, will not be reduced simply by expenditures of huge sums of government money. The government's role is to help those most in need and then create the kind of environment in which Ontarians will be able and prepared to spend and to invest. That, too, is very important.

The opposition in its criticism replies that the government is so busy preaching what is right

that it forgets to do the right thing. I cannot accept that criticism.

Interjection.

**The Deputy Speaker:** The member for Mississauga South has the floor.

**Mr. Kennedy:** The Speaker says the honourable members are to sit still and listen. Let them sit still, as he asks, and listen.

To ensure that citizens have trust and belief in the legitimacy of the government, the basis of governmental decision-making must be rooted in what it believes is right, rather than that which is merely expedient under the circumstances. In order to do what is right, what is at stake is not conservatism or liberalism or any other partyism, but the ability to think clearly about what can and cannot be done to resolve these problems.

As I mentioned earlier, all governments in power face the same recurrent social and economic problems, problems which go beyond the ideological calls of particular parties. Ideologies of state interventionism or simple egalitarianism are as inadequate as naive libertarian assertions when it comes down to the practicalities of government.

**Mr. Breagh:** What is this egalitarianism?

**Mr. Kennedy:** Get the book out. Get a dictionary out.

What is needed is a thoughtful and caring approach. The Progressive Conservative government in Ontario has recognized this for the past 40 years. The responsiveness and responsibility of the present government have their roots in the forward-looking and progressive 22-point program of George Drew four decades ago. The base was laid then for an economy that has kept this government in power over those many years and produced a quality of life second to none in any democratic jurisdiction anywhere in this world.

I will just touch on how that came into being. The Liberals under Mitchell Hepburn were oblivious to the challenges and the opportunities that the post-war period would provide. Then they were swept out of office. Drew's programs represented a total break from the do-nothing Liberal policies of the past. He was committed to equitable tax reform, agricultural and industrial expansion and an extensive program of educational and social change.

Those four basic things are still in place, and it is on those we have built today's economy. We have accomplished plenty. George Drew's platform represented a concern for the people of this province and an optimistic program for the



province's future. The succeeding Progressive Conservative governments, including this government, have continued in those footsteps, still offering the kind of responsible policies that respond to the needs of our people.

The common tendency among the opposition members directly opposite is to criticize the government for not playing an active enough role in economic and social maintenance and development of our province. The fact is the government has the structures in place to help our industries, farmers and small businessmen to improve their competitiveness and their productivity. I am talking about the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program.

The opposition members really do not know what they want the government to do. We hear calls for more legislation to regulate this sector, or more government funds to create some such institution or more government initiatives to ensure the development of any number of desired ends.

Simultaneously—and this comes again mainly from the members opposite—the government is accused of adopting a statist approach; for example, investing public money unwisely in the public domain or interfering with private property rights. What exactly do the Liberals want of the government? A hands-off or hands-on approach? I suspect—in fact, I know—the members opposite do not know themselves.

This government enjoys public support because it has always acted in a reasonable way, allowing the private sector free play yet intervening in specific instances when societal wellbeing is at stake.

A final disturbing element evident in opposition members' statements is the prediction of gloom and disaster. They would have us believe the problems we face today are especially difficult and that the present government and the people of this province are unable to cope. That is ridiculous. They would have us believe we are in a hopeless situation and that we should throw up our hands in despair. Conveniently, this kind of approach has a perfect counterpoint in solutions advocating increased government regulation and control. That last point is crucial.

An important dimension arising out of our problems is faith in the future. The collapse of faith in our abilities as individuals leads to the relinquishing of decision-making to experts and government agencies. The sad fact is that experts, in attempting to overcome our problems, often make them worse.

**5:20 p.m.**

Second, we must maintain a feeling of optimism and confidence in this province, because the loss of confidence and faith paralyses the will to act, to take risks, to persevere.

In general, as far as I can see, the ideas of the opposition are no more than a set of expressionistic and self-destructive political gestures based either on a vague dislike for the present system or on an equally vague notion about a better state of affairs.

Both opposition parties, but especially the one on the left, have adopted the same kind of hazy economic arguments as were put forward last year by the Canadian bishops. In calling for more social benefits for people, they demand from government a new economic vision, new industrial designs and new strategic plans. I understand this. What they forget to talk about is the source of all the good things they want; that is, the creation of capital or wealth, on which our economic and social systems rest.

**Mr. Breaugh:** I do not understand why you are attacking the Canadian bishops.

**Mr. Kennedy:** I am not attacking the bishops; I understand what they are doing. But they did not think it all the way through as to the source of capital we can distribute to raise the lot of everyone in this province.

The fact is that our society's ability to afford social programs rests on economic recovery and growth. Therefore, if one is truly caring about the material needs of the poor, hungry and disadvantaged, one must consider the most effective, practical way of raising wealth. One must think about what causes wealth.

I believe we now have in place a system and a government in which the problems of how wealth and wellbeing are created are taken seriously. This government sees its job as one of encouraging the private sector, since this is the only segment of the economy capable of producing long-term productive jobs, as I was saying earlier. No amount of government money will bring about higher sales, say, in the auto industry, or create new markets for a product. It takes intellect, capital and risk-takers to create jobs in markets. It takes the spirit of free enterprise.

The opposition criticizes the free enterprise system for being based on self-interest. I do not believe this. In fact, it is self-interest that ultimately leads to an ever-growing welfare state, as people secure their own security before everything else and abandon long-term goals and faith in the future.



In talking of productivity and growth, we must not lose sight of the intangible capital, the ambitions and motivations of the people, which determine economic growth. The problem with opposition solutions is that, to the extent they advocate the hiring of experts and allow decision-making power to depart from individuals in businesses and voluntary associations, the human creativity that is indispensable to overcoming our problems is thwarted.

In speaking of the human spirit, I want to remind the House of what my colleague the member for Prince Edward-Lennox said during last year's throne speech debate. He was talking about the small community in which he grew up, consisting of people of all types, sizes and abilities. Among this diversity, however, was evident a community and human spirit in which individuals demonstrated their concern for their fellow men; concern not based on any kind of division or political grounds.

The honourable member talked about how one generation looked after another. As he said, it was a matter of addressing a need where the need existed. He then went on to talk of our present system of institutions and of the lack of dignity for the elderly living in nursing homes.

He talked of the opposition calls for more government involvement in ensuring that the dignity of the elderly is maintained. He said he doubted very much whether more regulation and more government control would produce people with a sincere and genuine concern for those they served.

He expressed the opinion that true charity is to be found in the human spirit and not in government rules. Finally, he stressed that this kind of true charity cannot be institutionalized, nor can charitable persons be turned into civil servants.

This leads me back to the New Democratic Party emphasis on justice and the just society. To this government, a just society is one in which there is a wide latitude of freedom of choice for the individual balanced with mutual moral and legal responsibilities. It is a society in which there is, to use Robert Stanfield's expression, "justice with compassion."

This means in the total life of a community something more is needed than law. What is needed is compassion that goes beyond the dictates of law—a moral quality coming from the spirit of individuals. It is the emotional capacity of the community to be moved by the plight of others. We in the Progressive Conservative Party

believe in this kind of spirit, and we know it exists among the many communities in Ontario.

The government also believes it has an obligation to affirm and reaffirm its obligations to care for the infirm, the disabled, the elderly and the unfortunate. These safety nets are understood to be in place. Rights to such things as pensions, health and other social benefits do not emanate from a contract. They are rights that public opinion holds to be consistent with a good community. Conversely, and equally consistent with the idea of a good community, is the idea of responsibility.

The Progressive Conservative tradition has always been based on a sense of community and order, a feeling and respect for human diversity and individual rights, for a nonideological approach to the problems of political and economic organization. Progressive Conservatives see society as an organic unity in which everyone has rights and duties.

I want to stress that the PC tradition is certainly not placed on laissez-faire principles, as was suggested across the way earlier. It recognizes that the government has an important role to play in the promotion of the government welfare. Our approach is a pragmatic one, which tells us to retain our principles but to be open to the consequences. Thus, the goal of this government is not ideological purity, but broad social justice. Finally, it is based on a philosophy that appeals to the optimism and pride that will reside in most of our people, contrary to what the opposition may think or say.

Our way of life in Ontario and the principles by which the province is governed parallel the societal concept currently being much discussed in the United States, which I want members to be able to absorb. This idea is called democratic capitalism, and it has been well described by Michael Novak. Members of this House might benefit from a brief description of its major concepts. It is very interesting.

Novak explains democratic capitalism as a society which consists of three separate but related parts: a predominantly market economy, a liberal democratic political system and the moral-cultural system, which is pluralistic. These three spheres are characterized by relatively autonomous institutions, and their autonomy is supported by a pluralistic spirit. This way of life represents democratic capitalism's efforts to preserve the sphere of person inviolate.

Novak says pluralistic societies such as the United States and Canada develop their own forms of community, the community of free



persons in voluntary association. In such a system, the singularity of each person is respected, while allowing for an intense voluntary and multiple communal life.

The three types of institutions I mentioned all play important roles in strengthening and restraining each other. For example, the political system has as one of its central tasks the promotion of general welfare, its role in promoting commerce and industry and in aiding associations of citizens, which is also critical. The role of the economic system is to fulfil the material aspirations of all citizens and to free them for other pursuits.

**5:30 p.m.**

Under this democratic capitalist system, the state undertakes tasks essential to the promotion of commerce and industry. It does not try to control or manage economic activities. Rather, it actively provides all the indispensable infrastructures and preconditions which the economic system cannot reasonably provide for itself. Under this concept, the associative character of community life and the political and economic system set the stages for new approaches in governing. For example, such a system can go beyond social individualism and statism in addressing such things as social needs.

Given the mutual respect of the economic system and the political system, it is possible to maintain an activist government without establishing government as the chief agency for managing and administering a vast network of social aid programs. Under this system, the government can catalyse other social agencies and offer them the support to perform the necessary tasks better and more efficiently than government agencies. The principle is to empower individuals to achieve their own independence, through local agencies. This is something that is forgotten by those members opposite.

The system's success depends on the wisdom and the underlying strengths of an activist government which must remove impediments, lend assistance and, through positive actions, release the energies of the private sector. A do-nothing political system would fail to promote the general welfare; a do-everything political system would smother it. Finding the techniques that actually empower citizens to act is at the heart of the democratic capitalist system.

Novak points out that individuals, families and voluntary associations are very important in helping those in need. People who live with other people and have direct contact and responsibility for them can give in a productive and successful

way. Furthermore, the system makes it possible to provide social benefits by creating jobs and markets and by creating opportunities.

The proponents of democratic capitalism believe government should take the concept of community very seriously. According to them, the role of the state should be moving towards becoming the arbiter of community needs and government increasingly should take on the tasks of co-ordinating, priority-setting and planning.

In my opinion, the idea expressed in Novak's book merits serious consideration. We in Ontario already follow the tenets of democratic capitalism, but we might benefit by a closer inspection of the specifics of this concept. I think it is time that was done.

Mr. Speaker, the hour is getting on. In conclusion, the recurrent themes running through opposition criticism of the government are grounded in an atmosphere of pessimism and a lack of faith in the future. The themes themselves centre on the ideas of morality and justice and the government's supposed failings in these areas. This is not true. These criticisms do not stand up to serious scrutiny.

The government is as concerned as the opposition parties about the social wellbeing of the people of Ontario; in fact, I think more so. By tackling the root causes of these problems, it has demonstrated a more genuine concern for our people than the opposition with its fuzzy Utopian promises. When it comes right down to the crunch, the opposition has no argument with the kind of society we have in Ontario or with the way Ontario's high standard of life is actually being achieved.

**Mr. McGuigan:** Mr. Speaker, I am not usually provoked to argue with members opposite, but there are a couple of things I wish to point out to the member for Mississauga South (Mr. Kennedy). I have no quarrel with him as a person—I know he is a very fine gentleman—but I really doubt whether he wrote that speech. I think it was one of those paid speeches, for which the people of Ontario pay very large amounts of money and which develop these canned and hackneyed attacks upon the opposition.

There is nothing more honourable than to be a member of Her Majesty's loyal opposition, because if we did not have a system of opposition in the British parliamentary system, all our decisions would be made in the back rooms; even those on the back benches would be excluded. The system of opposition is not perfect, nor are we here describing ourselves as being perfect, but we are vigorous and positive.



We are taking a task force from our party around this province looking at the grass roots. We are going to the people. We had a health committee. We have a rural committee and a tax committee. These people are coming back with positive elements which we are putting into our policies and which we are offering to the people of Ontario. We are doing it on a positive basis.

Our leader is a positive person who has proved himself in the world of business. He says he once worked for a living and he demonstrated when he worked for a living how to expand his business, to provide jobs and to go ahead in the business world.

I point out to my good friend the member for Mississauga South that there is only one opposition. He speaks of the opposition in a very general way, describing things to us that I would not accept. I am not quarrelling a great deal with my friends to the left either. They have their point of view and we have ours, but I really quarrel with the blanket statements almost questioning the right of opposition members to stand in their places and bring up the concerns of the citizens with whom we meet when we are home, every weekend and during the course of the break periods. We know those concerns we are expressing here are real.

I am often accused of being a philosopher, and on a philosophical point, Marx said of his philosophy in his discourses on economy that we would not have true communism until we had automation. Yesterday I was on a tour with my leader in the county of Kent. We visited a very modern and progressive factory in Chatham, that of Fram Canada Inc., which produces millions of dollars in automotive parts, mostly to do with the cooling systems of automobiles, such as the fans.

They showed us various tests they had for the equipment, things they are developing and new ideas they have for cooling automobiles. They took us through the production part of the factory, which has only been there about 20 years. It is quite modern, very airy, clean and bright. It is not the terrible sweatshop most of us have in mind when we think of some sort of production factory. There were not many people there, and there certainly were millions of dollars' worth of product coming out of it.

**5:40 p.m.**

We saw people doing a lot of jobs we know will be automated within months. They have a 1,000-ton press in the Fram factory at Chatham. It is a pretty big press; it makes the blanks for the fans and then the fan blanks go through a whole series of presses, where various turns and twists

are given to the fan so that it delivers the most air for the least energy.

We saw these people sitting there putting the pieces into the press. They had chains on their arms to pull their arms back to prevent their hands from being cut off if they happen to slip when the press comes down.

Anyone could see that with a bit of engineering, machines could be used to put those pieces in the presses. I am telling members, within months or within two or three years those jobs will be eliminated. I would be willing to say they have not been eliminated up to this point largely because we in Canada have not had large production runs and it really has not in many instances been worth while putting in that automated robotic equipment because the production runs were too small.

We all have heard people in this Legislature talking about product mandating. When he was Minister of Industry and Trade, every time the present Treasurer got on his feet he talked about product mandating.

We have done some of that product mandating. This factory in Chatham is one of the largest producers of fans in North America to the point where it is producing those fans every day, not just on a short production run. Anyone can predict that those jobs will be eliminated. We are moving closer and closer to that day when Marx said we would achieve true communism when we achieved automation.

That is the dilemma facing us, and the people on that side of the Legislature are, in my view, not facing it. We have to come down to some sort of work-sharing agreement. I hesitate to say what that should be; whether we should go down to 24 hours a week, 28 hours a week, 32 hours a week, or whatever. But it is pretty clear to me that on our present work week we cannot employ all the people living in Canada and Ontario.

One way to handle that, of course, is to go ahead and hire only the very best people, those in their best productive years. Hire those people and have them work at a terrific rate and then have all the rest of the people on unemployment insurance or welfare, doing nothing.

The social consequences of that are absolutely horrible, just horrible. We are seeing it today in the people wandering the streets. We see it in the crime. We see it in abuse in the family. The Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea) tells us we are going to see it in abuse of the elderly and I think he is probably correct. Perhaps for the first time I am willing to stand up and say the gentleman is correct. I think he is



correct in saying we are going to see a great deal more abuse as we develop a society with one group of people working very hard and another group of people doing nothing.

Then, of course, we cannot go on paying these people to do nothing by printing money, taking it in deficit. At some time we have to face the reality that we are going to have to tax those people who are working at a rate of maybe 50 to 60 per cent of the money they make in order to hand it over to the other people to keep them idle.

I just mention these things to show that we have big problems ahead of us and we are not addressing them. I do not say that we on this side have all the perfect answers. I would be the last to say that. But we have here some young, vigorous people with ideas, and we are willing to put those ideas forward. We are willing to let the government tear them apart and say what it likes about them, but they are ideas and they are ideas that are being accepted by a lot of people.

Perhaps we are not going to form the next government, who knows who is, but there are a lot of people out there who are listening to these ideas and they are having an impact.

It bothers me to see our role as Her Majesty's loyal opposition brought down and denigrated in this chamber. I refuse to accept that.

**Mr. Watson:** Where is Albert today?

**Mr. McGuigan:** I beat my friend home last night.

**Mr. Watson:** Yes. But you had a plane and I did not.

**Mr. McGuigan:** The member for Chatham-Kent (Mr. Watson) and I left Chatham at the same time last night and I got here an hour ahead of him.

On a matter of morality, there is an item that offends my morality a great deal, and that is the business of playing politics with nursing home beds. We have a long-standing problem in my riding. There is a nursing home in Ridgetown which was deemed at times to be under standard. It was given many warnings about being below standard. But instead of taking the licence away from the home, which is a power of this government, it approved of the sale of that licence and moved the home to Chatham.

I do not quarrel too much with some of the rationality, which was that in today's economic world one cannot have a nursing home with 60 beds and have an economic unit; the economies of scale enter the picture. People in our party recognize that economies of scale cannot be ignored; one simply has to face them. As a result, these beds were moved to Chatham. However, it

was a long series of moves; beds were also taken from Thamesville and Dresden. The politics being played with this offends me.

One of the arguments at the time was who would get the credit about arranging a meeting in Toronto with the Minister of Health. The member for Windsor-Riverside (Mr. Cooke) said he had made the arrangements. The Minister of Health at the time said the member for Chatham-Kent had made the arrangements. I said that in no way did I want to be connected with making those arrangements. They were not going to tie me to making arrangements that were just a political exercise in trying to bulldoze those people into going home and thinking that down the line there would be some beds for them.

The Minister of Health then tried to give me a lecture on the quota value of a bed. I believe I have learned more about quota values in my 40 years of farming than he has learned in his two or three years as minister. There was nothing in those arguments that supported the moving of those beds.

I do not care whether my good friend the member for Chatham-Kent gets credit for a recent meeting that was held. If giving him credit will bring those nursing beds back to Ridgetown, I am willing to give him that credit publicly, in this Legislature. All we want is those beds back. I will stand beside him. I will hold his hand up. I will give him the credit for it. I just want those beds back in the riding to serve those people. That is what we are here to do: to serve those people and not to serve ourselves.

I want to read from the nursing home report that was prepared recently by the nursing home committee in Ridgetown.

"Originally, east Kent had a number of smaller nursing homes, but due to economic reasons these were not viable to operate. A total of 74 beds was transferred from this portion of the county—15 from Dresden, 20 from Thamesville and 39 from Ridgetown. Barnwell Nursing Home, with the co-operation and support of Ridgetown, made application for a portion of the 60 beds which were allocated to Kent county in the spring of 1977. The additional beds would have assisted in making that operation viable and would have enabled the upgrading of the nursing home. However, his application was denied and the 60 beds went to Chatham."

**5:50 p.m.**

Based on the statistics, the eastern part of Kent county has 15 per cent of the population but it has 19 per cent of the 65-plus population. That is pretty well double the average in Ontario for



people over 65. We have no beds to serve 2,336 elderly people. The county has three per cent more of the 75-plus age group than the provincial average, which adds additional pressure for more extended care.

The nursing home and extended care provincial summary of the Ontario Ministry of Health data development and evaluation branch shows that east Kent requires 64 extended care beds. We need 64. We do not have any. I think that is terrible, Mr. Speaker. I know a man of your conscience and sensibility would not agree with that. I do not think most people here agree with it. I do not think the former Provincial Secretary for Social Development, the member for Scarborough East would agree with that.

I want to congratulate her on her present position. We could not have a finer person to look after the bicentennial arrangements. I wish her luck in all her work. I am not going to spend much time talking about the bicentennial. We will do that another time.

We require 64 beds in east Kent and we do not have any. We have 19 per cent of the people who are over 65 and we have to do something about it. I am not going to stand here and be lectured about moral rectitude in the face of events such as that. I will not stand for it.

There are minimums. The combination survey by the Kent county district health council in 1982 shows that 17.9 per cent or 110 patients in care in the county were originally from east Kent. Specifically, 33 were from Ridgetown and some would like to go back home.

I have visited these new facilities in Chatham. The member for Chatham-Kent has visited them also. I do not know if we have been there at the same time. Certainly, they are fine facilities.

The people who have gone from Ridgetown to Chatham are being well taken care of. There is no argument about that. But they are a long way from their loved ones and their friends. Many of their friends are themselves elderly people who cannot drive there as often as they used to walk to the facility in Ridgetown. We are not complaining about the quality of the facility in Chatham. It is great; the quality is wonderful.

How would any member like to be removed from his community in his sunset years, at a time when his memories are the most important thing he has and at a time when he wants to share those memories with those friends who are still able to get around? I am sure a lot of them are driven there on weekends when younger relatives are able to drive them there, but they cannot be taken during the week in the busy seasons when the

younger people are working on the farms or in the factories. Those people miss their friends.

A new element has come into this regarding the matter of the economy of scale. There is a new facility in Ridgetown, a whatever-million-dollar facility. It is a facility that has rest home beds. A good wing of that facility was built to accommodate nursing home beds. It makes an economical unit to have both nursing home beds and rest home beds in the same building, because the support systems can be shared among those users. Now that there is a facility there, there can be no argument about economy of scale. All we need is for this government to exercise some of that morality it accuses us of lacking and we would have some nursing home beds there.

For a six-month period in 1983, statistics show Kent had 38 patients waiting in hospitals for extended care beds; 20 of these were on waiting lists and seven were waiting for a specific facility. These people used 603 hospital days in that time. Kent county has a large number of rest homes, and at present we have people in these homes waiting for admission to nursing facilities.

I would like to point out that a new residential care facility has recently been completed in Ridgetown; that is the one I was telling members about. There has been a resolution from the Ridgetown district nursing home committee urging that bed licences be released to Kent county for location in east Kent. This resolution has been circulated with endorsement to the ministry and local MPPs—the member for Chatham-Kent and myself.

We are in an election year and we know that election tactics are used in election years. I think it goes beyond what most people are willing to accept in politics to use elderly people as pawns in an election year or at any time.

I recognize that we play political games here; each one of us has little tricks, I guess, things we will do. But we do it in good spirits, we do it in humour most of the time and we do it with a little bit of a sense of fair play. Perhaps we bend the rules a bit at times, but I just do not think we should be using nursing home beds in that sort of context.

I have some other items I want to speak about. I see it is only two minutes to six, Mr. Speaker. Will we finish now, or do you want me to start the other subjects?

**Mr. Speaker:** Would you like to move the adjournment of the debate?

On motion by Mr. McGuigan, the debate was adjourned.

The House recessed at 6 p.m.



## ERRATUM

No.	Page	Column	Line	Should read:
6	168	1	34	If I might digress, somebody

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No. 8

# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Thursday, March 29, 1984

Evening Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Thursday, March 29, 1984

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

## THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. McGuigan:** I just heard some whisperings across the aisle that they are going to take me off their list for limousines.

**Mr. Hodgson:** The member will have to have more than three members here or he will not get a limousine.

**Mr. McGuigan:** I am ahead of members opposite. Shortly after being elected, the Premier (Mr. Davis) took me on an airplane trip with him to Chatham.

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** Did the plane hit the silo?

**Mr. McGuigan:** It was not there at that time; so I had a nice trip with the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** Chatham is a great place. It is the only airport in the world with a silo.

**Mr. McGuigan:** I flew out of that airport last night.

**The Deputy Speaker:** The member for Kent-Elgin has the floor.

**Mr. McGuigan:** The head wind was towards the silo; so we flew away from the silo, but that is another subject with which I will entertain members some other night.

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** I think we should discuss it tonight.

**Mr. McGuigan:** Perhaps in the minister's estimates.

I would like to speak tonight about a problem land area in Kent county. I guess it goes back a bit in history. At one point in our geologic time, the Great Lakes were about 100 feet deeper than they are at present. As the glaciers withdrew from the southern lakes, they still covered the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. In fact, they covered all the St. Lawrence River. At that time, the water flow was down the Mississippi. There is an old shoreline that follows all the Great Lakes. It is because of that shoreline that we have a lot of

fruit areas at various spots along Lake Erie and some at Lake Huron as well.

One of the most famous shoreline areas is the area south of Blenheim leading down to Rondeau Bay. It once was one of the most fertile areas in southern Ontario. If one brought a visitor to Kent county 30 years ago and wanted to take him on a tour, one would take him down the old road. There are beautiful old brick houses there—substantial houses. They came from the profits of that land because there was never a crop failure on it.

My father was a great farmer and liked to tour on Sundays. I hesitate to tell members how many Sundays as a kid I spent touring. We would always begin or end up by going down the old road to see those beautiful crops. Today one would not do that.

**Mr. Hodgson:** Why would the member not do that?

**Mr. McGuigan:** If the member for York North (Mr. Hodgson) had an eye for farming, and I think he probably has, he would not go down there because the effect of erosion has been simply terrible.

I have to give members a bit of background. Because it is beach soil, deep sand, when the topsoil erodes, in many cases it does not erode to clay but to more sand. It is a peculiar situation for soil to suffer erosion, lose its topsoil and still produce crops. I hope the members will not get me wrong and think this is all good. It has simply allowed those people to carry on when they should have stopped and taken remedial action a number of years ago.

If one drives through that area today, one will see nearly every hillside not with a poor crop and not with a sparse crop, but bare. Weeds do not grow on them and crops do not grow on them. That land is bare and it is an ugly sight. In the case of some 25 per cent of the land in the Rondeau Bay area, all the topsoil is completely gone.

**Mr. Havrot:** Blame it on the government.

**Mr. McGuigan:** Who else would I blame it on? This government put out the 1969 report, *The Challenge of Abundance*. It laid out the system for the farmers of Ontario. It said: "Get big. Specialize. Go into monoculture. Do away



with your cattle. Specialize in cash crops. Put your cattle into big feedlots."

Where are the feedlots today? The feedlots are broke. Feedlots all over this province are broke. The government encouraged that sort of thing. When one looks at *The Challenge of Abundance* of 1969, one will find it there. This government, which has been in charge all those years, has to answer for it.

**Mr. Havrot:** It depends on where one lives.

**Mr. McGuigan:** Sure it does. I want to preserve it. I am not afraid to take a few chances.

The loss on that land has been measured at 12 tons to the acre per year. Most land will suffer a loss of about three tons because there is some natural regeneration of fresh soil as one brings up a little subsoil, mixes it with some of the topsoil and adds organic matter with manures and so on. One does a little soil building, but those lands are going behind by nine tons to the acre.

This did not come to the attention of the government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. That is the sad part of it. The people who are supposed to be the guardians of our soil stood aside.

**Mr. Havrot:** Talk to your cousins in Ottawa.

**Mr. McGuigan:** Ottawa has a good soil erosion program. It is willing to put money into this one. The government stood aside. Who was it who raised the flag? It was the Ministry of the Environment because we were filling up Rondeau Bay and destroying one of the greatest natural bass fishing grounds in the world.

I went to Florida a couple of winters ago with my son who is a great bass fisherman. He is a tournament fisherman. We went to the St. John River which is touted as being the greatest bass fishing place in North America. The fishing was not all that good. We asked the native people, "Where is a good place to get bass?" They said, "Go up north to Rondeau Bay." They were working on old information because Rondeau Bay today is devoid of vegetation. There are no reeds in it. There is no milfoil in it.

**Mr. Havrot:** No shellfish.

**Mr. McGuigan:** I will not answer that. The member should crawl into his shell.

There is no vegetation that will support the spawning of these young fish.

Interjection.

**Mr. McGuigan:** A fish would not get caught if it kept its mouth shut.

They did tests on the water and decided it was because of the lack of clarity of the water. Sunlight will not go down through the water, and

sunlight is required for the power supply to generate the growth of the aquatic plants. The power for the growth comes from the sun. They have a white disc they lower into the water for a series of experiments. One is supposed to be able to see this disc at about four feet down in reasonably clear water. One cannot see the disc after about 10 inches because the water is so loaded with sediment.

**8:10 p.m.**

We have this once great fishing area which has very poor fishing today. The people make their living from the tourist industry, which is a very big industry all along the lake. People from Detroit come there to fish, and the local people fish there. It is a big industry, but that industry is in very sad trouble because the good fishing is no longer there. The land from the Rondeau Bay watershed is moving into the bay and eventually will fill up the bay.

The ironic thing is that the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, which is supposed to be concerned with agriculture and food—in 1962 the word "food" was added to that ministry's title—is not concerned. They say it is the concern of the Ministry of the Environment.

We have a group of people there who as farmers realize they have a problem. But I know, as does the member for Elgin (Mr. McNeil), who is very knowledgeable about farm affairs, one does not go in and—

**An hon. member:** Way to go, Ron.

**Mr. McGuigan:** If a person wants to get anything, that member is the guy to go to. He will give the straight truth. He knows one does not go to farmers and say to them: "You must not farm in that way. You have to do it this way." Before he got the words out of his mouth, they would tell him what to do.

These people are at the point where they want to do something. They realize they have a problem. They put a brief into the Ministry of Agriculture and Food asking for funds for study. Funds are required to do these things. They want legislation and they want support.

To go back a little bit, there was a cranky farmer in Raleigh township at the turn of the century. There are a lot of cranky ones there now, including me. His name was Charlie Williams. It does not mean very much to people today, but Williams farmed on the Raleigh plains. Because of the nature of the land, the farming was not too good. The land was either too wet or too dry. That was one of the hazards of farming in the middle of the 1880s.



Mr. Williams, being a cranky man, decided something should be done about the problem of flooding. He called on the Raleigh township council for an easement. This was in the days when farmers were independent. They did not want to care for the water that ran on to the other fellow's property. His proposition was that those farmers whose waters drained under the plain should be assessed damages. Council did not agree and said it was not within its jurisdiction to adopt such measures.

He sued the township. He engaged the services of a lawyer named Matthew Wilson and instructed him to sue the township for damages. He won his case but he lost an appeal by the township. The next move was to appeal the appeal, which he did in the Supreme Court and had the satisfaction of seeing his case upheld. The township then appealed the case to the Privy Council, which was permissible in those days. Again, Mr. Williams won.

Through this one man's efforts, the Raleigh drain was built to service the plain. It stands as an unnamed monument to one man's idea. From this one act eventually came the Drainage Act, which has done so much for the economy of Kent.

I brought up that point because the Drainage Act has done a great deal for the economy of Ontario. The act is one of the jewels in the arsenal of the Conservative government. It is used a lot. The act established the principle that a person is responsible for his water. If water runs from one person's farm on to another person's farm, he can be assessed and charged. He then has to help to pay for the drainage of that water.

We have a situation today with the compaction and the change in farming practices. This government has encouraged us to go to one or two crops in very large fields. In fact, it gave subsidies to bulldoze bush lots and to take out the fence rows to create these very big fields. Five minutes after a rainstorm, the water just gushes across those fields and takes away the soil.

We need some legislation and we need programs to take care of that water on top of the ground because it does not have time to sink into the ground, go down to the tile drainage and be covered by the terms of the Tile Drainage Act. It would be interesting and it would be a challenge if the government of Ontario were to recognize this, as has been done in the United States ever since about 1935. Various states have brought in legislation to create soil conservation areas.

The type of thing I have in mind is that the ministry on a small demonstration area could

make a contract with these farmers. These farmers have expressed a willingness to enter into such a contract. The terms of the contract would be that they would follow some soil conservation types of farming. They would have to do it for, say, a minimum of five years.

The province would provide technical assistance. It would provide some guarantees in money so the farmers could continue to make payments and not suffer great losses through their adoption of what in Ontario could be looked upon as experimental tactics. Really, they are not experimental at all. In other parts of the world they are well-established practices, but certainly here in Ontario they would be experimental.

We have this opportunity not to force farmers to enter into a program but to co-operate with them, and we are getting very little support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

We talked earlier about moral rectitude and the problems in the world. I talked a bit about the problem of how we are going to employ people with the revolution that is going on in industry, but there are two or three other problems that are perhaps worse.

I guess at the top of the list would be the arms race. Shortly after that would be the damage we are doing to the atmosphere, the pollution of the upper atmosphere and the changes it is bringing about in weather patterns. We really think we are seeing some of those changes in some of the erosion damage that is being caused. Right up at the top of that list is soil erosion, because we as a country and as a civilization are destroying our land more rapidly than has any other civilization.

We look at the problems today in Africa and at the people who are dying there. With the tremendous productive capacity we have, it is still impossible for us to transport and get food to them. That once was a thriving part of the world. We are moving faster down this road than they are.

It is difficult to stand up and talk about soil erosion when on every hand we have surpluses of food and farmers who get low prices for food. The government wonders: "Why are you talking about shortages of land? Let it go." That is what they seem to be saying.

One of the things we are doing in our research program here in Ontario is finding more and better ways to grow crops on poor land. They have an experiment at Ridgetown, not very far away from the Rondeau watershed. The object of the experiment is to see what is the possible high yield—not yields that a farmer could expect to produce economically on his farm, but what is



the potential, what is the highest possible yield one could get.

By using great inputs of fertilizer and new varieties of seeds and pesticides, they came up with a corn yield of 252 bushels to the acre. That is a tremendous yield. They think the theoretical potential today is around 600 bushels. That is a theoretical yield if everything were just perfect. But they have attained yields of 252 bushels.

**8:20 p.m.**

I suppose there is some value in showing what is possible and what is attainable, but it seems to me they are creating a false sense of security in the minds of farmers and in the minds of the consumers, because to attain those yields it is simply an exotic method of mining the soil.

We keep improving our yields. They are going up by about two per cent a year. But those yields are going up by using more chemicals, more pesticides, more inputs. All those inputs come from petroleum; it is the basis of the fertilizer and the pesticide industries. We live in a world that has a rapidly diminishing supply of petroleum. That is where our research dollars are going, to try to mask this insidious thing that is happening to the soils of southwestern Ontario.

It is happening in other ways, even on the flat lands. Every member here realizes that southwestern Ontario is very level, flat land. Here the problem is not so much erosion as it is compaction.

I had a drainage contractor come to me this summer—as a matter of fact, two men came. The contractor had blood in his eye because the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) had told him that I thought the Drainage Act needed some revision; that we needed to have the legal power to do above ground what we are now doing below ground. The chap was Eugene Kovacs, of RR 4, Chatham. He came—and, quite honestly, I am glad he came—to put it right to me: “What is the meaning of these remarks?”

I told him my side of the story and my concerns. In just minutes he was on my side, and he told me this story. He said he had put in a drainage system for a farmer three years ago. This was not on heavy clay land where one might expect compaction problems; it was on a sandy loam soil. He put in a complete drainage system. It costs about \$400 an acre or so to put that in.

The farmer came to him in the third spring and said: “The drainage system is not working. What kind of a job did you do? My soil is wet and muddy; it is not draining.”

The drainage contractor went out to the farm and said, “Let’s look at it.” He took a shovel out

of the trunk of his car and started digging in this muddy, wet, soggy soil. It was no place to grow crops.

He said he took out one spadeful and found the ground was dry. He dug down to the tile and it was running, but the ground was dry right down to the tile. The problem is, as any farmer knows, that land has lost its organic capacity; it has lost its physical structure; it has been overcropped with cash crops and it is not draining.

Last summer, one could drive through those counties in southwestern Ontario, particularly my two counties and into Essex, and all summer long one would see water ponds in what were always good fields—fields that I know are drained; there is tile drain in them. They never did drain. There is all sorts of expensive drainage tile underneath, but because of the heavy equipment and the type of farming we are doing—all encouraged by this government—we have a soil compaction problem.

I do not want to blame all the troubles and everything that is wrong in Ontario on this government. I do blame them when they do not recognize something that is in front of them.

The farmers are recognizing it, the government’s ag reps are recognizing it, and the drainage contractors are recognizing it, but the Ministry of Agriculture and Food will not recognize it, because the Tile Drainage Act and the tile drainage loans have been such a great vote-getting system. They are not interested in the long-term welfare of the land. They are interested in the long-term welfare of that party.

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of other aspects of this problem I want to talk about, for I really have just touched on it. However, we made an agreement that we would allow other people their time.

I would love a discussion on another occasion with the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow). I do not think he is much involved with the silo at Chatham. That is really a federal matter. I would be very glad to discuss it with him. In fact, I would be glad to have the minister come so I could show him around the county. I would show him some of these things I am talking about.

**Hon. Mr. Snow:** I have been there many times.

**Mr. McGuigan:** The minister is always welcome, too.

About a year ago, I sent a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Food, asking him to come down so I could show him some of the things I have been taking about. I said if he did not want



to come under my wing, I would be happy to have Ridgetown College of Agricultural Technology arrange a tour and I would just tag along to show him some of these things because a picture is better than a thousand words. He did not even answer my letter. I am not very proud to stand up and say the minister would not answer my letter.

**Mr. Havrot:** It must have been lost in the mail.

**Mr. McGuigan:** That is the type of comment one would expect from that member. I have a lot of things to say, Mr. Speaker, but I will relinquish my time to other members.

**Mr. Stokes:** Mr. Speaker, the first thing I want to do is to congratulate the presiding officers in this chamber for the way they do the onerous job of keeping order, and some degree of decorum and civility among this motley lot they have to preside over, including the member who just left the chamber, which is to the betterment of all of us here.

I want to say, even in his absence, how much I appreciated the comments of the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon) when he shared his experiences with us as a result of his visit behind the Iron Curtain. Since I have been a member here, I have always thought it would be most advantageous if all members who had the occasion and the privilege of visiting abroad would come back and share with us some of those experiences and observations they may make as a result of their trips. It does tend to broaden our horizons. It gets us a little bit afield from the routine, mundane, sometimes boring things we have to do around here individually and collectively. If more of that were done, it would be to the benefit of all of us in this chamber and ultimately to the benefit of everybody in the province.

In that same connection, I want to congratulate the member for Perth (Mr. Edighoffer), who visited a little farther afield, to Nairobi, Kenya. He did share his experiences on that occasion with us. For the same reason, I am commending his colleague the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk. I think we should have more of it.

The Minister of Tourism and Recreation (Mr. Baetz) gets a little farther afield on occasion, and I hope all members of the House will take advantage of the first opportunity to share experiences such as that with us. We could compare a lot of those experiences with the way in which we order our affairs here and, as a result of the increased communications, on occasion we might even find a better way of doing things ourselves. I think that is all a plus.

**8:30 p.m.**

I was going to compliment and welcome the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Mr. Villeneuve), who was here a little earlier but is not here now. I was going to remind him that some of the shenanigans he may have witnessed since he took his seat a week ago today are not the way in which we generally approach our individual and collective responsibilities around here.

This is the doldrums. It is always a dull time when one has to listen to speeches about the throne speech. Rather than deal specifically with the content or lack of content of a throne speech, most members tend to be somewhat parochial and spend most of the time talking to the folks back home, because there are precious few people listening to what goes on in the speeches delivered. I hope the honourable member's stay here will give him an opportunity to participate in a way from which we might all benefit, and certainly the people from that great part of Ontario who sent him here.

I am not going to spend a great deal of time talking about what was in the throne speech or what was noticeably absent from the throne speech. I was listening earlier today to the member for Mississauga South (Mr. Kennedy), who was reading from a prepared text. He tended to be somewhat negative in his contribution to this debate by tearing strips off the opposition, claiming we were purveyors of doom and gloom and we failed to see anything positive in what was going on, and saying he felt we could only get our jollies by being critical and negative.

Since I have been in this House, I have never at any time felt I had the right or the duty to stand up and criticize somebody else, unless I was prepared to come up with an alternative to what was being done over there. I have always attempted to do that, and I am going to continue to try to do that for whatever time it will be my privilege to serve in this chamber.

I want to deal with two specific topics in a positive way, not a negative way. I hope my comments will not be misconstrued, because I want to state here and now that the two topics I want to give my time to are ongoing, long-lasting problems I have spoken about for a good number of years.

The status quo has been tested and found wanting. I want to refer to economic development by the orderly exploitation of our primary resources in northern Ontario. I want to deal specifically with what happens when we find a gold-bearing ore body, in this case in northern



Ontario in the riding of Lake Nipigon, along the north shore of Lake Superior, along the Trans-Canada Highway and the main line of CP Rail at Hemlo.

Three gold mines will be the result of the discovery of that ore body, one by Noranda Mines, one by Lac Minerals and the other by Teck Corona. They have defined a gold-bearing ore body that at the present rate for precious metal is valued at between \$10 billion and \$12 billion, and counting.

The three communities, which are almost equidistant from that ore body, about 30 miles away—namely, Manitouwadge, Marathon and White River—are literally tripping over themselves trying to take advantage of the economic spinoff of that mining development. They know, and everybody in this chamber and everybody in government knows, they will never have the opportunity to tax that resource in a direct way, in a way that will compensate them for the tremendous outlay of capital dollars that will be required to provide the infrastructure services such as water, sewers and roads that will be required if those three communities are going to be the bedroom communities for that work force, which will be working elsewhere but domiciled in those three communities.

Let me go back about 30 years for purposes of illustrating what I am attempting to say to this House and to the members who care to listen. Let me read an editorial that appeared in the Manitouwadge Echo. It was written by a guest editor by the name of S. W. Bridges; it was originally published in the Geraldton Times-Star. Just to set the thing in perspective, Stew Bridges was my Tory opponent in the 1971 election. Let me quote just to put it into perspective; and remember this happened 30 years ago:

“The Hemlo gold discovery has three north shore communities dreaming of pie in the sky. Marathon, Manitouwadge and White River all figure on cashing in on the great proposed gold camp. There is talk that Marathon will have a population of 20,000.” It has about 2,500 now. “Manitouwadge will exceed 10,000.” It has about 3,000 now. “White River appears to be picking up what is left over. It is hoped all dreams will come true. History indicates otherwise.

“The spring of 1953 was another great mining boom. Three Geraldton men, two prospectors and a businessman, discovered copper, gold, silver, lead and zinc on or near a little lake known as Manitouwadge. This resulted in two mines, Willroy and Geco. Built around the two mines

was a new, modern community of approximately 3,000. In 1954 the mining world was excited. Politicians were dreaming and speculators planned to move into the new boom town. The provincial government moved in. They promised a new, modern mining community. No more Sudburys, Kirkland Lakes or Cobalts. This was to be a planned, model mining town.

“The Minister of Mines of the day declared that Manitouwadge was going to be as big as Sudbury. It would in fact be greater than Sudbury. In another speech he stated within five years he could see ‘Manitouwadge with a population exceeding Barrie, Ontario.’ He was not alone.

“As the diamond drill bits ground deeper into the ground, why the town had no boundaries. Then the provincial government sent in the community planners. They had visions of grandeur. They had no problem. There was plenty of land. They could make this into a town with large residential lots and a well-planned shopping area. One planner was heard to brag that he was going to show Canadians how it was done. There was plenty of land between Lake Superior and the Albany River.

**8:40 p.m.**

“The Ministry of Lands and Forests, now known as Natural Resources, announced land for sale in Manitouwadge. A chap by the name of Bob Bond, who later became municipal clerk for the town of Geraldton, was in charge of selling the residential and commercial lots. The lots went on sale, not in Manitouwadge or Marathon. No, sir. They were on sale at White River, Ontario. The new proposed town of Manitouwadge was still a dream on paper. Maps drafted showed the proposed town site. They also showed a well-planned commercial area. All was strictly zoned. No mixing of commercial and residential. Even an industrial area was planned.

“The lots came on sale with a reserve bid of \$1,200 for a commercial lot. The two big bidders were the Hudson’s Bay Co. and Chapples. Chapples, with their main store located in Fort William, had a chain of department stores established in communities such as Geraldton, Beardmore, Schreiber and Red Rock. Chapples wanted to expand into the new community. The bidding was fierce. All others stood by and watched. No one wanted to compete. Each bidder looking for a lot wanted to be near the post office, banks and the two major department stores. Chapples dropped out. The Bay won and bought their land. Chapples was offered another location. They did not bother.



"Buying lots next to the Bay was the idea. The bank bids. The land was running too high. Many Geraldton businessmen dropped out. The reason was simple.

"First, if you bought a commercial lot, you could only carry on business; no rooms, no apartments overhead. Offices for lawyers, doctors, insurance, etc. were permissible. You were told also to buy a residential lot when you bought a commercial lot. It was a beautiful plan.

"The commercial lots were all with 17-foot frontages. What kind of building could be built with a 17-foot frontage?

"Manitouwadge had two mines. It grew to approximately 3,000 population. That was all of 30 years ago. It was the first mining boom following the Second World War. Take it easy."

That is what he is saying about the urge by the people of Manitouwadge, Marathon and White River to cash in on this great bonanza that is going to befall the people along the north shore of Lake Superior as a result of this \$12 billion worth of new wealth that has been identified.

Since it has been agreed that Noranda Mines is going to have a viable mining operation and its work force is going to be domiciled in Manitouwadge, and that Teck Corp. and Lac Minerals are looking towards Marathon, let me remind the House that as a result of this newfound wealth, not one solitary penny is going to accrue directly to the municipalities that are charged with the responsibility of providing the hard and soft services that are going to be required to service that work force, first of all to make it attractive for them to move in and to convince them, after they get there, that it is going to be a good place to live, to educate their children and to bring up their families.

I discussed this with the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier) during the estimates last fall and suggested that some kind of heritage fund, tomorrow fund or resources development fund be set up to look after problems experienced by fast-growing communities in the north, especially this one based on a nonrenewable resource, because we know from the first day we take a ton of ore out of the ground, we are that much closer to the day when we have to walk away from it or find an alternative to the economy of that community.

The minister said, "We really do not need a fund like that as long as we have a Ministry of Northern Affairs. If any of those communities are having growing problems or growing pains, they need only come to us and we will bring in supplementary estimates."

In fairness to the Minister of Northern Affairs and his ministry, they have come up with \$70,000 for the township of Marathon to allow it to employ an economic development officer for the next two years. They have contributed something in the order of \$30,000 to \$35,000 to the township of Manitouwadge so that it can get its act together with regard to an overall official plan. To date, that has been the extent of financial contribution from the Ministry of Northern Affairs.

As a result, I wrote a letter to the minister and sent copies to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett), the Premier (Mr. Davis) and the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope). I said:

"Dear Mr. Minister:

"This will acknowledge your response dated March 13, 1984, concerning assistance from your ministry for the Manitouwadge fire department." As the result of expansion, as the result of building an airport on the outskirts of Manitouwadge, they find themselves in need of another fire truck and do not have the financial wherewithal to provide it.

"You indicate the only form of help for such purposes is through generous unconditional and conditional grants from the province.

"I am sure you will appreciate the additional pressure that dormitory communities like Manitouwadge and Marathon are subjected to in their responsibility for providing infrastructure and soft services for the work forces of Noranda, Lac Minerals and Tech-Corona at Hemlo.

"Since these communities are being forced to provide serviced lots for residential, commercial and light industrial development, they will be hard pressed to recover costs from water, sewers and streets and all other infrastructure services on a user-pay principle.

"These projects will require interim or bridge financing until the municipalities are able to recover costs for these services, as well as borrowing and debenture costs. These charges will be borne by existing taxpayers until the new arrivals are in a position to make their contributions.

"The part of this whole equation that I find most worrisome is the fact that this new mining venture has identified a gold-bearing ore body valued in excess of \$10 billion and the communities of Marathon and Manitouwadge have no taxing authority beyond their own boundaries. You will be aware that this deposit is roughly 30 miles from these communities and the federal and provincial governments will be the major



beneficiaries in the creation of this new wealth, while the municipal governments are charged with the responsibility for providing services.

"Prior to the introduction of the resource equalization grants, we had in place mining revenue payments which were paid by the province to municipalities which were bedroom communities for a work force which was employed elsewhere beyond their boundaries.

"The same case can be made for communities like Geraldton, Beardmore, Nipigon and Schreiber, which are dormitory communities for work forces employed by the pulp and paper industries and are located outside their jurisdiction. Pulp, paper and sawmills are located in the city of Thunder Bay and pay taxes there but the timber is located elsewhere and much of the woodlands work force resides in small outside communities which do not benefit from industrial assessment.

"The value of Ontario's metallic mineral production in 1983 is estimated at \$2.67 billion. On a regional basis the value of all mineral production in 1982 was as follows: Algoma, \$623.7 million; Cochrane, \$479.3 million; Kenora, \$185.7 million; Nipissing, \$49.7 million; Thunder Bay, \$172.8 million; Timiskaming, \$136.2 million; Sudbury, \$723.8 million. Ontario's projected mining profits tax for fiscal 1983-84 is \$35 million.

**8:50 p.m.**

"Other mineral-resource related revenues as of March 1983 include acreage fees, \$528,050; miners' permits, \$598,383; pits and quarries, \$167,310; mining leases, \$229,312; mining royalties, \$1,997,744.

"The latest information available for the forest industry comes from the Ministry of Natural Resources 1983 statistics which provide a breakdown for 1981. The subsectors in the value of shipments are as follows: logging, \$717.9 million; wood industries, \$1.42 billion; paper and allied products, \$5.12 billion.

"If the distribution of production is the same as it was in the mid-1970s, then the above figures could be broken down as follows for the northwest region: for logging, \$272.8 million; wood products, \$326.6 million; paper, \$665.6 million. In northeast Ontario, it would be: for logging, \$424 million; wood, \$170.4 million; paper, \$1,177,600,000.

"The MNR statistics in public accounts for the year ending March 31, 1983, indicate the following revenues: land agreements, \$526,531; nursery stock, \$675,846; stumpage fees, \$39.5 million; timber area charges, \$3.3 million.

"It is obvious that northern Ontario, with less than 10 per cent of Ontario's population, is responsible for a much larger proportion of the new wealth created on a per capita basis than any other region in the province. It also follows that many northern municipalities do not have the necessary mix of industrial, commercial and residential assessments to underwrite the cost of servicing the work force which resides within their boundaries.

"The transfer payments from the province to northern municipalities by way of conditional or unconditional grants fall far short of the financial requirements needed for the construction of infrastructure services in these bedroom communities.

"When one looks at the plight of communities such as Atikokan and Pickle Lake when their economic base is lost, it becomes obvious that a pool of capital is required to assist them in finding and establishing an alternate economic base, especially if we are dealing with a nonrenewable resource such as mining.

"The government has stated that a heritage fund or a resource fund is not needed as long as we have the Ministry of Northern Affairs. If such is the case, what commitment is it making to assist Marathon and Manitouwadge in their task of providing services for the Hemlo work force beyond the partial funding of an economic development co-ordinator in Marathon, or an official plan for Manitouwadge?

"Let me suggest that a representative group of regional directors from provincial ministries meet with the executive of the Thunder Bay Municipal League to identify specific problems and to make recommendations that could compensate northern municipalities for their inability to benefit directly from resource exploitation. The government's advice and assistance would be greatly appreciated."

Some might say, as the member for Mississauga South said earlier today, that is a negative comment; that we are being critical of the status quo. If that is the case, I plead guilty. But I do not see it that way. It is my responsibility, as a member representing a northern riding, to bring to Mr. Speaker's attention and to the attention of members of the House the consequences of maintaining the status quo where we have identified a brand-new resource with a value of something in the order of \$10 billion to \$12 billion. We are going about servicing people who are going to have to be attracted into that area in order to produce that new wealth.



If we do not get our act together, first, we are not going to attract the professional, skilled and semi-skilled work force needed to exploit that resource in an orderly fashion. If they do not do that, we are going to have shack towns, unattractive ghettos, an environment no one will be proud of, an unsatisfied work force and an eyesore.

There is no doubt in anybody's mind that if we are going to attract the kind of work force that is going to be necessary to do the job of exploiting that mineral wealth, to provide a profit for the shareholders, to give a decent wage to the work force and to have due regard for the environment, it is going to take money, expertise and commitment. It has been estimated that when those three mines get going, there are going to be about 10,000 tons of tailings a day coming from them. Those tailings have to be taken care of to make sure they do not foul up water courses in the area and we do not unduly impair other values such as the quality of water, fishing, forestry, all of the things which are affected by human intervention in a multiple-use concept. It is going to take money. It is going to take expertise and a commitment on behalf of all concerned.

It is not enough for the Minister of Northern Affairs to say: "If you need some help, come and see us. We will bring in supplementary estimates and somehow we will get the job done." We are talking about a megaproject. We are talking about megabucks, and collectively, led by that government over there, we have a responsibility to assist those communities to do all of the things that are so essential if we are going to call ourselves world leaders in terms of orderly exploitation of a resource. We have a responsibility to leave the environment just a little bit better than we found it.

All of this takes planning, expertise, dedication and a good measure of concern by a government which claims to have the expertise, which says it is a world leader in creating an economic climate that is second to none anywhere.

I hope the Provincial Secretary for Justice (Mr. Walker) and the member for High Park-Swansea (Mr. Shymko) have been listening to what I have been saying for the last half hour. If they had the privilege of being the member for Lake Nipigon, would they treat this problem any differently from the way in which I have treated it?

**9 p.m.**

I have not been negative. First, I am inviting the rascals over there to be aware of the problem. I have the responsibility to bring something of

this import to the government's attention. It has a profound effect on the lives of everybody in Ontario and everybody in Canada. I did not put it there, it happened as a result of volcanic action five million years ago.

I want to tell the members I had stock in the very property when I used to be employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway. It was called Lake Superior Mining Corp. Ltd. They knew there was something there but they did not positively identify precisely where it was, so the company lost its charter. I am using the certificate as wallpaper. Now we have a resource there of \$10 billion or \$12 billion and still counting.

I was one of the original free enterprisers and I lost.

**Some hon. members:** Come on over.

**Mr. Barlow:** Tossed right out of the party.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Robinson):** Order.

**Mr. Stokes:** The members cannot tell me anything about a commitment to the future of northern Ontario or Canada. I was involved in that exercise long before the members even knew what it was. What I am saying is that it is just unfortunate. We have the Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Mr. Dean) and the Provincial Secretary for Justice here. I am sure I have convinced them my argument is worth while.

I would love it if the Minister of Northern Affairs, the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett) and the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) were here because we in northern Ontario will be creating that for the benefit of everybody in Ontario and Canada and we want some help from those people to do it right. We do not think it should be done on the backs of existing residential taxpayers in those communities. I think the members would agree with that.

The same thing would apply to Detour Lake. We do not have any members from northeastern Ontario here, but the members who are here will know a substantial ore body has been identified. I do not think it is as big or as rich as Hemlo, but it is very significant.

The dormitory communities that will be charged with providing services for the work force at Detour Lake will be Cochrane, Timmins and the communities near by. Those communities are entitled to the same consideration and the same assistance in the creation of that new well for the work force that will be domiciled there, but they do not have the ability to tax that resource.



I want to speak of one other problem, namely, our inability to attract a qualified work force of professionals in the medical field. I am sure those members who read the *Globe and Mail* on a regular basis, much more carefully than I do, will be aware of a series of articles that ran about two weeks ago.

One dealt with the plight of the town of Smooth Rock Falls in trying to attract a doctor, or a sufficient number of doctors, to look after the medical needs of that community. There was another about Fort Frances where they are much better off in the number of doctors they have been able to attract. The third in the series was about Pickle Lake, a small community in my riding, the most northerly community one can drive to in Ontario. It is even north of Moosonee latitudinally.

This is for the benefit of those who are not aware of what goes on in a small northern community that lacks the ability to attract medical practitioners, the profound effect it has on a community that has just lost its major economic base. A Belgian mining company spent \$110 million up there, and then the price of copper went down. For economic reasons they had to close down the mine. The people who are left behind lack the ability to attract and retain a doctor except on a locum or rotating basis.

A young person by the name of Caitlin Kelly wrote the following article from Pickle Lake: "You can't miss the ravens. Squawking like rusty doors, they wheel and glide over the town and clog every treetop. They perch on the two-and-a-half metre snowdrifts and the green tile roof of the 10-room Pickle Lake Hotel, their croaks one of the town's only sounds.

"Pickle Lake was once home to 1,200 people, a quarter of them employed by Umex Ltd., a Belgian company, which in 1976 invested \$110 million in a copper mine here. The company built two handsome two-storey apartment buildings, a mobile home park and houses—most of which now stand empty.

"In April 1982, copper prices were forced so low by South American competition that the mine was closed. Today a skeleton staff of nine employees keeps the mine ready to reopen when prices rise.

"We don't see that happening in the near future," says mine manager Don McKelvie.

"The 500 people remaining here wish it would. Most now work for Austin Airways, Hudson's Bay Co—the town's only grocery store and retail outlet—or Kovol Transport. They're pinning their hopes on a gold find being

developed at Opapimiskan Lake, 225 kilometres north. But work on a winter road began there in November; it will take another six months to complete, and another year before the mine is ready."

Am I interrupting the members over there?

**Mr. Gordon:** No, the member is doing fine.

**Mr. Stokes:** Okay, just so we know.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Stokes:** "Pickle Lake is, literally, the end of the road—one can drive no further north in Ontario. It takes 90 minutes to fly in from Thunder Bay by Twin Otter plane over rocks and trees punctuated by stretches of snow-covered lakes. The snow on the lakes bear snowmobile tracks, the only sign of human life.

"For Dr. Catherine MacHattie, however, Pickle Lake seems like a metropolis. She had come for a month from La Ronge, Sask., where she has been homesteading in the bush with her husband and two children.

"There she lives without electricity, running water or refrigeration; here she has sole use of a comfortable four-bedroom trailer. She is paid \$1,400 a week by the underserved area program of Ontario's Ministry of Health.

"A tall, lean woman, Dr. MacHattie grew up in a Toronto suburb and studied medicine in Toronto. Yet she has spent most of her working life in small or remote communities in northern Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario.

"She prefers the freedom and the mobility of a locum (locum tenens means 'you hold the place' in Latin and refers to a temporary medical assignment) responsible to a community for a week, a month or a year.

"Pickle Lake and the nearby town of Armstrong are the only two communities in Ontario whose isolation and tiny population make it impossible to attract a full-time physician." The only other one, Armstrong, happens to be in my riding, too.

"The UAP supplies the towns with a series of rotating doctors from its roster of 450 who are willing to travel wherever needed.

"The reception desk of Pickle Lake's medical clinic, built by the Ministry of Northern Affairs five years ago and operated by the UAP, bears witness to the turnover. A slip of paper taped to the front informs patients, 'Our doctor this week is Dr. C. J. MacHattie.'

"Nurse Connie Lake has worked in the clinic since it opened, watching doctors come and go, watching the frustration and resentment build in townspeople forced to tell their stories over and over and over again. She has become the focus of



town hopes for caring, consistent medical care—and she is moving away this year.

**9:10 p.m.**

“She came to Pickle Lake when her husband, Reg, now town clerk, was transferred by Hudson’s Bay Co. from Winnipeg. She loves the fresh air, the curling and the social life. But her oldest son Wayne is 14 and, like all Pickle Lake teenagers, must leave town to attend high school.” There is none there. “Ms. Lake hoped to send him to a boarding school in Winnipeg, but could not afford the necessary \$10,000.

“Asked her opinion of health care in Pickle Lake, Ms. Lake is guarded. She admits it offers little challenge to a doctor and prefers instead to proudly show the clinic’s tiny laboratory—capable of doing simple blood and urine analysis—X-ray unit, darkroom, emergency room and waiting room. An incubator is also available and a full set of handmade baby clothes, to be given to any woman who gives birth in town, as five have over the years.

“Most pregnant women go to Thunder Bay or Winnipeg two weeks before delivery, but treatment with a series of different doctors falls far short of the ideal.

“‘Changing doctors during pregnancy is not good,’ Dr. MacHattie says. A pregnant woman should first visit the delivering physician and use the local doctor for her routine care, she says. That would require two trips at \$130 each to Thunder Bay instead of one for a pregnancy without complications.

“She admits there are problems for both physician and patient inherent in the locum system.

“The most basic, and for patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, psychiatric disorders or heart disease the most crucial is the inevitable lack of continuity. Patients resent repeating their histories to that week’s doctor, but failing to mention a drug allergy, for example, could prove fatal.

“In response, Dr. MacHattie demands a greater self-awareness and frankness from patients. ‘If you’ve got 10 people in the waiting room, you don’t have time to go through their charts. You have to rely on them to tell you whatever is important.’

“Patients have to be understanding, she says. ‘There will be some doctors you like and others you don’t. I think you have to bank on that. Put some money aside for emergencies, especially if you have kids.’

“In her first week here, Dr. MacHattie called the air ambulance service in Sioux Lookout three

times—for a baby with a hernia she could not reduce, for a woman with internal bleeding and for a car accident victim who needed X-rays and 24-hour observation.

“To her annoyance, her requests were not automatically granted. The dispatcher in Sioux Lookout makes the ultimate decision on whether to send the plane. The plane took three hours to arrive for the woman with internal bleeding. She had to pay the heavily subsidized \$22 cost and faced another 45 minutes by air to Thunder Bay.

“Ms. Lake says the clinic borrows a commercial aircraft and pilot from Austin Airways or Air-Dale Ltd., a freight charter service if an ambulance is not available.

“A patient whose condition is not considered serious enough to warrant an ambulance or its alternative must pay the \$130 return air fare to Thunder Bay.

“Loretta Simpson, who has terminal cancer, flies to Thunder Bay every three weeks to receive radiation or chemotherapy treatment. Her husband Dave, manager of The Bay, says they were delighted with the quality of care in Pickle Lake until the last permanent physician left for Alberta after the mine closed.

“The Simpsons were accustomed to rural and northern towns before settling here, and Mr. Simpson says the care here was ‘a big improvement’ over their last home in northern Saskatchewan.

“‘We definitely can’t complain about the service,’ he says.

“But Steven Fleming, a local ground worker with Austin Airways, does complain about Pickle Lake’s health care at great length and with much vehemence during an interview in the clinic’s waiting room.

“He cradled his two-year-old daughter Sherry on his knee as his wife, a native Indian, took their two-month-old daughter in for a checkup. Glancing at the reporter’s notebook, he said, ‘Tell them we need a full-time doctor—and a dentist.’

“He says the high medical turnover deprives the town of good care. ‘We don’t know what they’re sending,’ he says angrily. ‘We really need the services up here—this is 1984.’

“He lived several years in Moosonee, Ontario, and says the care in that small, isolated community was far better. He can’t understand a physician’s reluctance to come to Pickle Lake—or to stay.

“‘If they made it attractive to a doctor, he’d stay. We’ve got everything—fishing, bowling,



curling, hunting, clean air. We don't have traffic jams.'

"A local woman who bore two children in Inuvik, NWT, and who has lived in northern Manitoba and Alberta is equally disparaging.

"I hope to hell I never get sick here,' she says. She worked as a health care worker and has little regard for locum treatment.

"These doctors don't care. They're here to hunt and fish. I'm not impressed.'

"She concedes that the clinic, which has a volunteer-driven ambulance, is good for emergency care, but says clinic treatment lacks confidentiality.

"Dr. MacHattie agrees that small-town work demands a high degree of personal skills. 'People have nowhere else to turn but to you. They have no choice.'

"Most northern doctors I've met fall into two categories,' she adds. 'Those who are young and looking for experience and who stay for about five years and those who tend to settle permanently.'"

I am not going to read the entire article. It appeared in the *Globe and Mail* on Thursday, March 15, but it gives members some idea of the traumatic experiences that people have, especially those with children, when they must rely on the locums, the people who come and go, the kind of treatment that they must settle for, less than the best.

I see the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Mr. Wells) here. He used to be Minister of Health at one time. I think even in his private life he used to write a medical journal or was responsible for editing a medical journal.

I hear the discussion that is going on among the Canadian Medical Association, the Ontario Medical Association, the Honourable Monique Bégin, who is the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and our own Minister of Health (Mr. Norton), as to how they are going to resolve this problem with amendments to the Canada Health Act.

A letter came across my desk the other day from a Dr. Christianson, who practises medicine in Toronto. He wrote a letter to his federal member, he wrote a letter to the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau and he wrote a letter to every member of this assembly saying what he will do if the Honourable Monique Bégin gets her way in Ottawa with the proposed amendments to that act.

It was a very well thought-out position for the doctor. It was very persuasive for someone who really does not think about the whole problem in

any great detail. Never once did the doctor mention, hint about or allude to the fact that he has the privilege of practising in this great province, in this wonderful country, by virtue of the fact that collectively as taxpayers we have contributed several hundreds of thousands of dollars to make it possible for a person to be trained to practise medicine in this province and in the city of Toronto.

**9:20 p.m.**

He went on at great length to tell us the number of hours he works, the number of patients he has to see, what his overhead is here, how expensive it is to carry on practice in Ontario and what we collectively owe him for the practice of medicine in this great province. Not once did he ever mention the hundreds of thousands of dollars that we as a society have invested in his career.

In relation to the problem I am bringing to the members' attention vis-à-vis Pickle Lake and a lot of northern communities, I have talked to Ministers of Health in the provincial jurisdiction about our inability to attract medical practitioners to the north in sufficient numbers. They say: "Well, you have to be very careful what you are saying about the allocation of doctors in Ontario, because we really do not have a shortage of doctors. If you took the number of doctors practising in Ontario and divided it into the population, you would have about one doctor for every 600 patients."

Well, that sounds great. If every doctor had to look after only 600 patients or those who happened to become ill at any given time, we would be more than well served.

The Minister of Health says there is no shortage of doctors; there is just a maldistribution of doctors. I do not care what you call it. If we cannot attract medical personnel in sufficient numbers to communities such as Pickle Lake, Armstrong, Terrace Bay, Marathon, Nipigon, Smooth Rock Falls and literally half the communities in northern Ontario, we have a shortage.

Members know how we fund the Ontario health insurance plan; they know how we fund the health delivery services in Ontario. It is done on a socialistic basis: we all pay the same. If you are enrolled in the OHIP system in Ontario as a single person and if you live in Toronto, you pay a certain premium; if you work in Pickle Lake and you are a single contributor, you pay the same premium; it does not matter where you live. It is an insurance scheme that is equitable and spreads the risk around.

But that is not the case when it comes to the delivery system. I know of many constituents in



northern Ontario who have to spend several hundred dollars for diagnostic or specialist treatment travelling from Manitouwadge to Thunder Bay or, in some cases, to Toronto when the procedure is not available locally. Unless they are transferred from one hospital to another by an attending physician and from a hospital in Toronto to an attending physician in a hospital up north, they are on their own.

I am not going to go on at any great length about this. All I am saying to those within hearing of my voice is that the problem has existed for a good many years and it continues to exist. It is not going to go away until we collectively, and the Minister of Health specifically, address these problems.

We have some very dedicated doctors; we have some very dedicated nurses and others in the health delivery system. But there is a maldistribution. We pay our way and more, and we do not get the level of service that everybody in Ontario is entitled to.

Getting back closer to my opening comment, we in northern Ontario are responsible for the creation of more wealth, more real dollars on a per capita basis, than anybody in Ontario; but when it comes to the delivery of services, we are second cousins. We do not think that is fair.

I felt it was my duty and responsibility to bring it to the attention of this government and those who chose to be here to listen to the debate on the speech from the throne. I want to assure the members that everything I have said tonight is not negative. It is not gloom and doom. It is inviting the government to take advantage of opportunities available in the north, to get involved in a positive way, to be a genuine part of the creation of that new wealth and to make sure the people directly responsible for the creation of that new wealth in northern Ontario are as well served as those in southern Ontario.

**Mr. Barlow:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the honourable member from the north explaining the northerners' problems to us. We in the south have problems too. I know what the member is saying, and I certainly agree with everything he says.

**Mr. Shymko:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Barlow:** Almost everything. Let us not get carried away.

I was particularly pleased to see the government's initiatives in this year's speech from the throne. I would like to recognize that it did reconfirm its commitment to the development and enhancement of high technology for medium and small-sized companies.

There were many initiatives in the speech: initiatives on youth employment, skills training, high technology, export development, the economy, community improvements, advances for women, agriculture, education, justice and many other topics. I would like to spend a few minutes tonight talking about the initiatives in high technology.

The innovation, adoption and diffusion of new technology within our industrial sector is the key to our future. This government recognizes it is essential that all of our business enterprises be on top of technological innovation if they are to find incentives and initiatives to reduce operating costs, increase productivity, create competitive products and achieve higher profitability. If our firms do not modernize their production processes, if they fail to join the technological revolution that is sweeping the industrial world, they will be left far behind.

Canadian businesses, particularly those in manufacturing, are facing the greatest productivity challenge this country has known since Confederation. Many of our manufacturers use outdated, noncompetitive manufacturing tools and equipment. This is in stark contrast to their foreign-based competitors, predominantly those in the United States, Japan and West Germany, who have invested heavily in modern computer-aided design and manufacturing equipment, robotics and electronics.

For example, we are told Japan is currently utilizing about 30,000 programmable robots, whereas in Ontario we have installed only about 400. That is a large contrast.

**Mr. Kerrio:** If he could get them to vote for him, he would have a lot more.

**9:30 p.m.**

**Mr. Barlow:** We are working on that. They are programmable.

In addition, the worldwide application of computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing, or as we more commonly recognize it, CAD/CAM, will increase by about 46 per cent this year. In Canada the increase will be in the range of 37 per cent. As a result of their initiatives, foreign manufacturers are increasingly more efficient than Canadian-based competitors and can sell higher-quality goods at lower prices in Canada and throughout the world.

In Ontario, we have no choice but to embrace this new technology so we can enhance our competitiveness and thus make new strides into the world market. The government's emphasis on assisting small and medium-sized firms in the use of new technology has a sound basis. Studies



have shown smaller firms are substantially more innovative as compared to the larger enterprises. Small businesses form the backbone of our economy; they are the principal source of new jobs in our province.

A study conducted by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business concluded that Canadian manufacturing companies with fewer than 20 employees create jobs at 20 times the pace of the larger companies. It is through these smaller companies that Ontario's economic future will be secured.

It is always worth while to examine the jurisdictions where progress has been made. In Sweden, where the manufacturing sector is similar to our own, production is dominated by smaller firms using flexible manufacturing systems. These firms produce a number of products that must compete on the world market. However, the Swedes have made remarkable strides in increasing efficiency through the use of robots. In fact, on a per capita basis, Sweden has the largest number of robots of any country in the world. The net result is that Swedish industries have ensured their survival.

This government is taking heed of the advances made in other jurisdictions, such as Sweden, and is tailoring its programs and policies to assist our industries in obtaining a competitive edge. The government's commitment to assisting our industrial sector is evidenced by the many programs and initiatives that have already been instituted.

One such initiative is the creation of our six technology centres, which are now recognized worldwide. They assist firms in putting new processes to work and focus on the needs of smaller manufacturers in specific sectors. They perform four basic functions, namely, increasing the awareness of high-technology issues among businesses, providing practical advice to manufacturers on the selection and use of technological equipment, providing a focal point for technological training and serving as a source of up-to-date information.

In their initial year of operation, the technology centres have performed their functions very well. A recent survey indicated that 96 per cent of the high-tech suppliers were aware of our centres. Additionally, awareness factors within the educational and business communities were found to be at 98 per cent and 73 per cent respectively.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** That is because of our openings.

**Mr. Barlow:** That is right. By all means, the openings were what set the pace for the whole technological world.

During the past year, these centres have helped more than 125 firms to increase their manufacturing efficiency and develop new products. In the Ottawa area, the Ontario Centre for Microelectronics has assisted in the establishment of five new companies. A total of 245 persons have participated in training courses held by the centres.

**Mr. Kerrio:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot hear this gentleman speak with all that noise over there.

**Mr. Barlow:** That is all right. I will try to speak over them.

In particular, some of these intensive specialist courses have been carried out by the Ontario Centre for Automotive Parts Technology and the Ontario Centre for Microelectronics. The centres have also lived up to our expectations as a primary source of information. One of the main mandates of all the centres was to act as information outlets.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** They are a worldwide success.

**Mr. Barlow:** Absolutely. I already said that.

On-line information retrieval systems have been developed in each of the centres, and they have been used for 53 searches on a fee-for-service basis. Of particular interest to me is the Ontario Centre for Computer-Aided Design and Computer-Aided Manufacturing, which we have located in the city of Cambridge in the great riding of Cambridge.

The potential benefits of the application and use of CAD/CAM technology are far-reaching. It can reduce the time spent on product designs; it has implications for improving the management of inventory, manpower and process control; and it can assist in determining energy-efficient manufacturing methods.

In combination with effective management, advanced manufacturing methods can result in lower production costs, improved product quality, the elimination of dangerous and repetitive jobs and a substantially increased ability to compete in world markets.

Since opening in February 1983, just a little more than a year ago, the CAD/CAM centre in Cambridge has been visited by more than 10,000 people and has conducted 10 workshops with more than 400 clients in attendance.

**Mr. Van Horne:** So what does that mean?

**Mr. Barlow:** It means that more than 400 clients have learned of the advances in and the



availability of CAD/CAM to them in their industrial applications. This centre has also assisted some 50 firms to assess the feasibility and plan the application of advanced manufacturing technologies.

Last week, at the CAD/CAM centre in Cambridge, Tech-Expo '84 was conducted. It was a major technology exposition, which included industry, community and public events. As well, a new addition to the centre was officially opened by the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller).

**Mr. Kerrio:** Who is that?

**Mr. Barlow:** The member for Muskoka.

**Mr. Kerrio:** If you are going to give him a commercial, say his name.

**Mr. Barlow:** That is right. I might as well give him the whole thing. He is not even in his seat so that I can really build up on it—

**Mr. Kerrio:** Say his name anyway.

**Mr. Barlow:**—however, I am telling you who it was.

An addition was put on the centre, almost doubling the centre after only one year. The facility was thought to be large enough when it was rented in the first place; however, we now have an almost double-sized centre in Cambridge to conduct the affairs of CAD/CAM and to introduce CAD/CAM to the industrial sector of Ontario.

One of the most important functions of our tech centres has been to foster a co-operative working relationship not only between industry and government but also between companies themselves. We must realize—

**Mr. Van Horne:** You are saying government goo-goo, government gaa-gaa.

**Mr. Barlow:** No. This is not one of those situations; this is assisting people where they want it and where they need it.

We must realize that as we strive towards finding our place in the world economy, the competition does not stem from other companies or other industries. Rather, as the Minister of Industry and Trade so aptly said:

“The competition is from other economies, other nations where the various sectors are pulling together to win. This is the new reality of international competition and it requires new rules of co-operation and consensus. Competition in world markets is a team sport.”

**9:40 p.m.**

One example of companies pulling and working together is also occurring in the riding of

Cambridge. This really did occur in the shoe industry prior to the opening of the Ontario Centre for Computer-Aided Design and Computer-Aided Manufacturing.

Cambridge is famous for its shoe industry. Four shoe manufacturers combined their talents and abilities and formed a joint computer-aided design system. The shoe industry is fiercely competitive, but these firms realized the enormous potential application of a computer-aided design system. They also realized no one company could buy the system and make it pay. Consequently, these far-sighted companies overcame their differences and developed a workable arrangement whereby all four of them could benefit. It has been extremely effective and useful.

By mutual agreement, this system was installed at Conestoga College of Applied Arts and Technology in the riding of Kitchener-Wilmot. I am sorry the member is not here to hear that plug for his riding. It was put on neutral ground so the competing companies could deal in some area that is not one of their own.

Each company can transmit data concerning the size and style of a particular line of shoe over the telephone directly into the CAD system. The computer then translates the data into patterns that can be used back at the plant. Every year, as the new fall, winter or spring lines are designed, they go through this. The CAD system has enabled them to compete in the worldwide shoe market.

This process of pattern design, which used to take up to three weeks, now takes only one day to develop for a particular style of shoe. Achieving this kind of productivity increase and co-operative effort is essential to Ontario's industry as a whole.

This government realizes it has a responsibility to industry, one that includes providing the broad infrastructure required to sustain economic growth. This government also recognizes it has a role to play in encouraging financial investment in our technological future.

To this end, the government has been actively working with private financial institutions, venture capitalists and the banking community to broaden their understanding of industry requirements and to emphasize the urgency needed. We must ensure we are not left behind in the technological revolution.

I recall at the opening of the CAD/CAM centre just over a year ago a sign on one of the displays said in big, bold type: “You missed the first



industrial revolution. Do not miss this one." That is the age of high technology.

Dr. Gerhardt Meinch, who was at a recent conference on investment technology here in Toronto says, "Twenty-five years from now, 90 per cent of the work force will be employed in industries that do not exist today." To some, such a thought could instil a very real feeling of insecurity. We are entering an era of rapid change and fundamental shifts wherein we will find jobs, invest capital and use our resources. It is universally accepted among leading economists that only nations that adapt to these changes will remain prosperous and stable.

However, I have no such feeling of insecurity, Mr. Speaker. I know you have the same air of confidence in the Ontario Centre for Robotics in your own riding. I know this government is up to the challenge of providing the leadership required and the initiatives necessary to ensure our place in the world of tomorrow, just as we have for the past 40 years in this province.

For these reasons, I strongly support the adoption of the throne speech and I am convinced all members will do the same.

Interjections.

**Mr. Barlow:** I thought that would get a rise.

I think Ian Macdonald, chairman of the Innovation Development for Employment Advancement Corp., a government agency, expressed it best when he said there was a feeling not so long ago that Ontario's best economic years were behind us, but that that kind of assessment does not take into account our position in the heartland of Canada, our tremendous people asset and our base of strong institutions, both government and private. We need to mobilize those strengths. When we do, I think we will see that our best years are ahead of us.

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to be able to try to respond to the throne speech that was presented to the House on March 20, 1984.

**Mr. Van Horne:** That is a tough job,

**Mr. Mancini:** My colleague the member for London North says it is a tough job, and I have to agree with him. It is a very tough job when I have to respond to such a vague document that covers 28 pages.

**Mr. Van Horne:** It is so full of holes one does not know which ones to shoot at first.

**Mr. Kerrio:** It is so full of holes that a fisherman could use it for a net.

**Mr. Mancini:** That is right. I can recall late in the afternoon, after His Honour was finished reading the throne speech, I received a call from the reporter who works for the Windsor Star here in the legislative gallery. He said, "Remo, what are your comments on the throne speech?" I sat back, thought for a moment and said, "You have heard the old saying about a chicken in every pot." He said, "Yes." I said, "This throne speech is a chicken bone in every pot. It is mighty thin."

I always enjoy this part of the parliamentary process, not so much because of the document the government puts forward, not so much because of the throne speech itself, not so much because of the formal activities that surround the opening of the Legislature—the shooting off of the cannons and the 200 guards standing at attention waiting for His Honour to come forward and step down from the horse-drawn carriage—not so much because of that, because after one has seen it several times or has been here long enough to have watched the process several times, it does not have the excitement it had originally. I enjoy it simply because it gives all members the opportunity to hear other members speak at length and speak about things that are close to and dear to their hearts.

I always enjoy the remarks that are made by the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon). Somehow he is able to put together sentences and paragraphs with his knowledge of the history of this province and his tremendous experience. I do not think I have ever heard a throne debate speech he has given that I have not really enjoyed.

9:50 p.m.

I want to use the time I have for two purposes. One is to follow the old tradition of talking about one's riding and the second is to make a response in a limited way on the policies of the present government.

I am going to try very hard not to be negative. I do not want to condemn the government for its inadequate policies, for the things it does not wish to grapple with or for the way it tries somehow to paper over all the problems we have in the province. I do not want to be totally negative. I am going to give the government some suggestions.

I am also going to mention some of the very good things that are happening in Ontario. The first thing I want to mention is the visit of the Queen and the Pope this year. I am really thrilled the Queen of England is going to visit our great province this year and Pope John Paul II is also going to visit our province and our country.



I have been told the Queen of England will be spending some time in the county of Essex and the city of Windsor. The people of our community are quite impressed by the fact that the Queen of England will spend some time in our fine community. I am told the mayor of Windsor had some responsibility for convincing Her Majesty she should come to Windsor in view of the fact that the mayor of Windsor is originally from London, England, I believe. If it was her representation that convinced the Queen of England to come to Windsor, I congratulate the honourable mayor and say it is a fine thing.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** She is the Queen of Canada too.

**Mr. Kerrio:** We already said that over here. You are way behind the times.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** Are you trying to give us a message, Remo?

**Mr. Mancini:** I think about a year ago you got a message.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Mancini:** As a Catholic, I am absolutely thrilled Pope John Paul II is coming to Canada. As a citizen of this province and this country, I am absolutely thrilled Pope John Paul II is coming to our land because he is a man of peace, a man of hope and a man who has spread goodwill all over the world. We can certainly use whatever goodwill Pope John Paul II can bring to our country.

**Mr. Shymko:** He almost cancelled because of a leadership convention. He told us he was a good Liberal.

**Mr. Speaker:** The member for Essex South has the floor.

**Mr. Mancini:** It was mentioned in the throne speech that the general economy of Ontario was improving. I was quite interested and I took note of how much credit the Ontario government was trying to give itself for the lowering of the inflation rate, for the increase in productivity and for the increase in—

**Mr. McNeil:** In spite of what your federal cousins have done.

**Mr. Mancini:** I am sorry?

**Mr. Kerrio:** Those federal boys have done it all. You have hung on their coat-tails.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Mancini:** The provincial government tried to take credit for the lowering of interest rates, the general improvement in the productivity of our province, the improvement of our exports and the lowering of inflation.

It was this government, when we were in trouble, that tried to deflect every single problem to Ottawa. Now, when things are improving, this selfish government is trying to take credit for every good thing that has happened. The members across the floor cannot have it both ways. They cannot run for cover in hard times and then come out when the sun is shining and say, "My goodness, isn't it a great day?" They cannot have it both ways.

When we had high interest rates we proposed a policy to help farmers, small businessmen and home owners. They rejected that policy. When we had high inflation—

**Mr. Shymko:** Who did it? You tell us.

**Mr. Gillies:** You tell us who did it. The Liberal Party of Canada, your cousins in Ottawa.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Mancini:** They rejected the policies we put forward, and they savaged poor old Charles Joseph Clark. They savaged the poor former Prime Minister and then they hid in the dark until things started to improve and, lo and behold, we have a document dated March 20 and, my goodness, they try to take credit for some of the good things that have happened. We will not let them do it.

Interjection.

**Mr. Mancini:** They should not be so touchy. The truth hurts.

The member for Lake Nipigon (Mr. Stokes), who always delivers a fine throne debate speech, talked about the north's resources. It has been over the past—

Interjection.

**Mr. Mancini:** Yes, as a matter of fact the member for High Park-Swansea (Mr. Shymko) was one of the victims of this government's attack on Charles Joseph Clark. He was one of the victims.

I want to, just for a moment, touch on the Hemlo gold fields in the north; a tremendous resource for our province. There is untold wealth in that region which will be mined and used, I am sure, for the benefit of this province.

When the people who wanted to develop Hemlo needed money and capital, they had to leave this province. They had to go to the Vancouver Stock Exchange to raise money to develop the Hemlo gold field in this province. I say, "Shame on the Conservative government of this province."

Where were they? Where was the Minister of Tourism and Recreation (Mr. Baetz) when people wanted to develop the Hemlo gold fields?



He was part of this government which said, "There is nothing we can do." They found people in Vancouver who were interested in discovering gold and in trying to discover resources that could be used.

This example of the Hemlo gold fields is typical of many of the reasons we cannot forge ahead in this province. We have it all, yet we cannot seem to put it together to lead the way for our country and for North America.

As I was going through the throne speech, I noticed that on page 8 the government states it is going to reinforce the ability of industries and mature workers to meet and master change. That is a very nice statement. It gives people heart. Before we can accept this statement at face value, we have to look at the government's record.

How has it done so far in retraining people in our province? How has it done so far in retraining injured workers? How has it done so far in retraining people who have lost their jobs from complete or partial plant shutdowns? How has it done so far in matching skills training with jobs available? It has done a lousy job.

When this simple statement in this throne speech which says the government is going to reinforce the ability of industries and mature workers to meet and master change is compared to the past record of the government, it gives solace to no one, let alone members of this assembly who just want to take a few moments and see the facts for what they are.

I visited a hospital in Windsor not too long ago. I met with the executive director, toured the hospital and met with some of the physiotherapists there. I went over some important matters with the executive director as to how they affected my constituents. These same matters affected everyone else in Windsor and Essex county and I am sure these same problems are occurring all over the province.

**10 p.m.**

What was the problem I am talking about? The hospital was short of physiotherapists. I said, "Fine, go out and hire some physiotherapists." He said, "Mr. Mancini, we cannot hire any physiotherapists; there are none."

I said: "What? Do you mean to tell me that in Ontario, with all the community colleges we have and with all the bluster we hear from this government about training and preparing people for jobs in the marketplace, we have no physiotherapists?" He said, "That is correct." I said, "Where are you going to get your physiotherapists?" He said: "We already have contracts

that we are going to sign in the next week. We are importing five or six from England."

That is the record of this government. It cannot deflect that to Ottawa, although I am sure it will try. That is the record. Then they try to tell us they are going to reinforce the ability of industries and mature workers to meet and master change. They have no idea whatsoever how they are going to retrain those people.

It is not the intention of this government to make major changes and to face the major changes happening in our economy. Its intention is solely to hire the best pollers—people to take polls—to hire the best advertisers and in one way or another to have a public relations campaign which will get them through the next election.

That is the only intention this government has—to hire people to do polls and public relations. The once great Conservative Party of Ontario has turned itself into a public relations firm. After 40 years of being in office, it is no longer a political party. It is one huge, wealthy public relations firm.

It states somewhere in the speech from the throne—I cannot recall which page—that this government—

Interjection.

**Mr. Mancini:** Is the Provincial Secretary for Justice (Mr. Walker) saying something? I cannot hear him; I am sorry.

**Mr. Speaker:** Just continue on with your speech, please.

**Mr. Mancini:** I have never criticised the minister for spending those hundreds of thousands of dollars for speechwriters and I do not intend to start now.

It says in the throne speech that the government of Ontario is going to try to attract more tourists. That is an honourable ambition. I commend the government of Ontario for wanting to bring more tourists to our province. That means jobs and that means dollars. It helps the economy roll.

How are they going to attract those tourists to our province? Are they going to attract the foreign dollars by putting a sales tax on hamburgers and a cup of coffee? Are they going to attract those tourists by allowing the ripoff on Highway 401 to continue? Bonnie and Clyde would be proud of what is happening on Highway 401.

One crosses by the bridge or the tunnel from Detroit to Windsor and gets on to Highway 401. As a tourist, one says: "God bless Canada. I am here. Things look great." One pulls into the first service station and one says: "My God, the



gasoline is anywhere from 10 cents to 18 cents a litre more than it was in the city of Windsor. Gosh, as a tourist I think I am being ripped off."

One goes inside. We are all familiar with what the service centres are like in our province. I do not have to go into great detail about the high cost of food, poor class of service and the tremendous cost of gasoline.

Is that how we are going to attract more tourists? Has the Minister of Tourism and Recreation ever raised his voice on one occasion about the ripoff on Highway 401? Has he ever said one word about that problem? Has he ever sent one letter to his colleague the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow) about the very unfair cost of gasoline on Highway 401? The Minister of Tourism and Recreation is working to bring the tourists here while he is working to send them back. That is exactly what is happening.

Interjection.

**Mr. Mancini:** That is right, and the Minister of Transportation and Communications is winning. We talk about bringing tourists to our province. Does the Minister of Tourism and Recreation know what the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope) is doing? He has dramatically increased the fees for nonresident fishing licences.

We are very fortunate in the Windsor-to-London area because we have the opportunity to attract a great number of fishermen from the Detroit, Michigan, area where five million people reside. Fishing is a very good pastime for many of these people. They enjoy coming to Canada, to Amherstburg or Bell River and other places, to fish and spend a day in our country, spend whatever dollars they can in the course of that day and then go home and possibly come again later on in the week or the following week.

The fees charged by the Ministry of Natural Resources are going to prevent many of these people from coming. Instead of having a one-day fishing licence so tourists can come and enjoy the facilities we have to offer—the restaurants, the taverns and the reasonably priced gas in Windsor compared to the Highway 401 service stations—we do not offer that. We tell them if they want to come to Canada to fish they have to buy a licence which is good for four consecutive days. We do not care if they can only stay for four hours. How is that helping the tourism industry of our province?

Did the Minister of Tourism and Recreation raise one word of objection to the Minister of Natural Resources? I would like him to listen for

only a moment. I know he is having a big confab with the government House Leader (Mr. Wells), but he told us in the throne speech that tourism is important, and we want action, not just words.

We want to know if he raised his voice just once and if he talked to the Minister of Natural Resources on only one occasion. Has he written only one letter about these one-day fishing licences? He is not even looking up; so he is not interested. I have to assume he has not written any letters and has not talked to the minister. This talk about bringing tourists to Ontario is nothing but another government public relations ploy.

**Mr. Conway:** The minister should pretend it is 1975 and he is a Liberal again.

**Mr. Mancini:** Yes. The fact he was a former Liberal certainly got his attention. Now that I have directed some comments to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation, I want to ask if it is true that he has sent letters to the people who operate the Lottario machines telling them that if they participate in a sports lottery pool with the national government of Canada he will remove those machines from their premises?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Is this question period?

**Mr. Mancini:** I just want to know because I want to make a comment on it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Will the member please go ahead with his speech.

**10:10 p.m.**

**Mr. Mancini:** If it is true, he can nod his head. He interjects when he likes. If this is true—and I have reason to believe it is—that is one of the most objectionable things I have ever heard a minister do. Into the middle of a dispute between two governments, he is putting someone who has no reason to be involved in that dispute whatsoever, a private entrepreneur who for one reason or another has been selling Lottario tickets so the government could use these millions of dollars to make itself look good once every two or three weeks on television as it hands out these \$4-million cheques. I must say I was really touched when the minister kissed that little old Italian woman. I really was.

For the minister of one government to threaten an entrepreneur who is conducting business on behalf of the province because he or she may do business with the government of Canada is really disgraceful. If the minister has sent that letter, he should send each and every one of those people an apology. They do not belong in the dispute he has with the government of Canada. They are out there slugging, trying to make a living. They are out there paying those horrendous sales taxes this



government has imposed. They are out there trying to sell those Lottario tickets so the government can look good. I am really disappointed the minister has chosen to inject innocent people into a dispute he has with another government, our government of Canada.

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** When did you buy your last Ford at a Chrysler dealership?

**Mr. Mancini:** The minister asks, when did I buy my last Ford at a Chrysler dealership? My wife drives a Chrysler. It was bought from a Chrysler dealership. I drive a Ford. It was bought from a Ford dealership. The car I owned before my Ford was a Chrysler I bought from a Chrysler dealer in the area. I have never owned a foreign-made car. I have always owned a car made by the United Auto Workers of America. My father drives a Chrysler, my three brothers drive Chryslers and my brother-in-law drives a General Motors car. I do not think the minister's record is as good.

**Mr. Gillies:** Are they all Liberals?

**Mr. Mancini:** Yes, they are all Liberals. Why would the minister question me about the kind of car I drive when—

**Mr. Speaker:** Interesting as this may be, this is supposed to be reserved for the reply to the speech from the throne. The member for Essex South has the floor.

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, if you feel I am somewhat wide-ranging in my comments, it is because the government's 28-page throne speech is wide-ranging and therefore I have to try to cover as much of it as possible as best I can. When someone tries to imply I do not drive a car assembled by the United Auto Workers of America, I think it is important that I clear the record. Why he would think that, I do not know.

Agriculture has tremendous potential for our province, but we need a Minister of Agriculture and Food who is going to fight in cabinet for the farmers, for all farmers. Since the present minister has taken over his portfolio, it appears to me the amount of money allocated to that ministry has slipped somewhat from past years.

In the throne speech, I was very surprised to see that the government of Ontario is going to appoint an advisory council to provide independent advice to the government of Ontario. I am offended by those particular terms. If the government wants independent advice, why does it not talk to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture? Does it not consider the federation independent? Does it not consider its advice appropriate? Why does the government not talk to the

greenhouse marketing board? Does it not consider them independent? Does it not feel their advice is worth listening to? What about the fruit and vegetable growers?

It is shocking to me that this government would appoint an advisory council on agriculture to give it independent advice when the farm community has several organizations that are independent and would be more than pleased to give this government advice as to how they could settle some of the difficult farm problems we have today.

**Mr. Elston:** If they would listen.

**Mr. Mancini:** If they would listen.

I know why there is going to be an independent advisory council on agricultural matters.

**Mr. Kerrio:** To take the pressure off the minister, what else?

**Mr. Mancini:** No. I am not quite sure that is it. There are some people in the Conservative cabinet preparing themselves to run for the leadership.

Interjections.

**Mr. Mancini:** Yes. There are some people over there who are preparing themselves to run for the leadership.

**Mr. Conway:** Is that what Yuri Shymko has been doing?

**Mr. Mancini:** He has been trying unsuccessfully.

These people may be surprised when the Premier (Mr. Davis) decides to stay; however, I am not getting into that debate.

It appears, from this humble view, that this advisory council is going to give a certain minister the power to appoint certain individuals. One would consider that after these individuals are appointed they might feel obligated or they might feel they owe the appointer something.

If by chance there is a Progressive Conservative leadership convention between now and whenever the next provincial election takes place, it may be that some of these appointees may feel obligated to go to a particular convention to vote for a particular appointer.

That is something I have surmised. Maybe I am being cynical. Maybe the Minister of Agriculture and Food truly wants independent advice. But if the minister wants independent advice about the agricultural farm community or about the industry; there are already several, well-qualified, independent organizations which would meet with him any time he desires.

We heard from this government that it is interested in affirmative action. We have heard it



has some kind of five-year plan. We have heard the Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch) will be attending a conference; more of his proposals with which we are not familiar will be put forward.

We are told there will be improvement within the next five years. One area that needs improvement dramatically is the school system.

About a year ago I was asked to be a guest speaker at the Essex County Women Teachers' Association annual banquet. Before I went to the banquet I checked several of the school boards in the province to find out how things were shaping up as far as senior positions were concerned and how many of these senior positions were being filled by women. I am sorry I did not bring these figures with me tonight.

**10:20 p.m.**

Since the government has recently tabled figures which show how few women are principals and vice-principals, we all understand the message. I do not need those exact and specific figures I used that night about a year ago. It was shocking to me. I did not realize how few women principals and vice-principals we had.

I told the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario that night, along with the senior officials of the Essex County Board of Education who were there, that if we continue to allow only men to be principals and vice-principals, then the students in the classrooms will believe it is normal and it is the way things should be.

The young boys will believe that they, their brothers, their uncles or their fathers can hold executive offices such as vice-principal and principal, offices of responsibility; on the other side, the young girls will come to believe it is normal that they, their sisters, their aunts or their mothers should not hold these offices. If we convince these students during their school years that this is the way things should be, it is going to take a long time to correct the problem we have.

We need role models and we need to show the community as often as we can and in a proper fashion that anyone who is capable of holding that type of job can do so.

I say to the Minister responsible for Women's Issues that he has done a poor job in this area. I specifically say to the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson), who is usually referred to as the czarina of all education in this province, that she has had this portfolio for some time now and she has had no effect whatsoever in changing that particular problem and in being able to convince

school boards that qualified women should be given positions of responsibility.

There is no one in this House who can or would try to defend the government's record in the classroom area. No one in this House, no one even on the Conservative side, would dare to try to defend what has not happened over a number of years.

A few days ago the government House leader introduced a bill in the House that would provide for a pension for the Ombudsman, who has recently been appointed. I met Mr. Dan Hill on a couple of occasions before when he has visited Amherstburg.

Amherstburg is the home of the North American Black Historical Museum. We are proud to have the black museum in our town. We are proud of the tourists it attracts. We are proud of the distinguished black people it attracts from all over. We are proud of the distinguished and hardworking black people who make up the board and who have pushed for this museum. We are proud of the fact that this black museum will educate those who attend it in the rich history and culture of black people in our province.

I happened to meet the new Ombudsman in that museum. I have great respect for the new Ombudsman; I believe he will do a dynamic job and will look after the interests of people who cannot defend themselves. But for the government to introduce a bill that would guarantee him a pension after five years' service, I find unacceptable. We are going to pay Mr. Hill top wages, possibly \$80,000 a year; he will be provided with a car and maybe with other perks. The government of Canada has allowed for very generous registered retirement savings plans. With the salary this Ombudsman is getting, he could easily divert some of those funds into such a plan. For us to pay such a salary and introduce such a bill that would guarantee a person would receive a pension, I find somewhat unacceptable; but I guess the majority may carry the day.

On occasion I have an opportunity to meet with people who are involved with alternative schools. In my constituency we have the Mennonite school in the township of Mersea. The school serves a large Mennonite community which has distinguished itself for hard work and community service. This school receives no assistance from the provincial government for any of the educational needs it provides to the students.

This school is a member of the Ontario Association of Alternative and Independent Schools, an organization that is lobbying the



government of Ontario for funds to maintain schools like the Mennonite school. I support its request. The education the students receive at the Mennonite school is equal to the education provided anywhere in our province.

I know the member for Brantford (Mr. Gillies) has attended a seminar sponsored by this organization of alternative schools, and I know he has looked favourably upon the possible funding of these particular schools, such as the Mennonite school and probably other schools with religious affiliations. He is a member of the government party, which has a vast majority in this House. If he is serious about supporting these schools to some degree, he should not just go to meetings and try to cover for his government.

Let us be a little more outspoken about it. Let us write some open letters. He and I should get together and cosponsor a private member's bill if he is serious. I think that would be a very good idea. If he is not serious, if he is just going to attend these meetings and do the best he can to deflect any criticisms from the government, I do not think that is fair. These are good people. They approached the government in good faith. If there is nothing there, they want to be told there

is nothing there and not to be encouraged to run around in circles.

**The Deputy Speaker:** I just remind the member to have a mind to the clock. Would this be an appropriate time to move the adjournment of the debate?

**Mr. Mancini:** Yes. I just say again to the member for Brantford that we should cosponsor a bill, he and I, which would provide funding for alternative schools.

On motion by Mr. Mancini, the debate was adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, before the adjournment of the House, I would like to indicate the business for tomorrow and next week.

We will continue the throne speech debate tomorrow morning, on Monday and Tuesday afternoons and Tuesday evening, Thursday afternoon and evening and next Friday. It has been agreed we will have the vote on the motion to accept the throne speech on Monday, April 9, at 5:45 p.m.

The House adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Friday, March 30, 1984

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Friday, March 30, 1984

The House met at 10 a.m.

Prayers.

## FARQUHAR OLIVER PLACE

**The Deputy Speaker:** Before proceeding with the routine issues of the day, I would like briefly to bring to the attention of members that a number of our colleagues are today honouring a person who has contributed greatly to this House over the years. I am referring to Farquhar Robert Oliver, a member of the provincial parliament for an impressive 41 years.

Mr. Oliver, whom many in this House would know, was a cabinet minister in the early 1940s for the Department of Public Welfare. He was also a leader of the Liberal Party and a Leader of the Opposition.

Today Mr. Speaker is representing this Legislature in honouring Mr. Oliver, who turned 80 earlier this month, for his contribution to the people of Ontario. This morning in the community of Durham, which is just south of Owen Sound, a special ceremony is taking place to salute Farquhar Robert Oliver.

The new Rockwood Terrace Home for the Aged will have a section of the building named Farquhar Oliver Place, thus paying tribute for many years to come to the man who pioneered the establishment of homes for the aged throughout this province. Farquhar Oliver Place will be a unique day care centre for the elderly, and it will be the focal point for the newest of programs catering to senior citizens in that area.

In closing, I am sure I speak for all in this House in congratulating Mr. Oliver and his family on this special day.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### ONTARIO SPORTS MEDICINE OFFICE

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce today that my ministry is establishing the Ontario sports medicine office.

Given the public's continued and growing interest in sports, fitness and recreation, it is an appropriate time to establish a central co-ordinating office for sports medicine. This new office will serve a co-ordinating function as an unbiased, authoritative source for sports medicine information. It will serve as a clearinghouse

for up-to-date sports medicine research and as a resource centre for those seeking sports medicine programs and expertise.

The new office will be equipped to offer information on such issues as safe training procedures, the recognition and prevention of sports injuries, and advanced techniques and research in this new and exciting field.

The Ontario sports medicine office will be located at the Ontario Sports Centre in Toronto to serve the approximately 50 provincial amateur sport governing bodies that are housed there as well as the some 25 other organizations that do not have full-time staff. Its consulting services also will be available to fitness leaders, coaches and athletes in the province.

The Ontario sports medicine office will also continue the excellent work begun by the hockey trainer certification program, an important safety education effort for that sport. I would suggest that initiatives such as the Ontario sports medicine office and the hockey trainer certification program help ensure safe, enjoyable sport and fitness experiences for all Ontario citizens.

### PRESIDENT OF UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to extend the sincerest of congratulations to Mr. Lynn Williams, who last evening was elected as international president of the United Steelworkers of America. He has had a very distinguished career, including the presidency of district 6 here in Ontario. He is well known and respected for his efforts on behalf of the trade union movement both in Canada and in the United States.

The position he will now occupy is one of the most prestigious in the entire world in the field of labour. He is entering it when the steel industry is experiencing very difficult times in North America. As a result, he has awesome responsibilities, but I am sure he will execute those responsibilities in a most positive and productive way.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, I am today tabling the results of a study—

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, I was on my feet to associate myself with the statements made by the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay).



In view of the fact that Mr. Williams received overwhelming support, not only from Canadian steelworkers but also from steelworkers from the United States, my party would like to associate itself with the support expressed by the minister. Certainly the members of Local 1005 in the great community of Hamilton had a little bit to do with his election. We are very happy to see him there. We know he is going to represent steelworkers across Canada and the United States extremely well.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, Lynn Williams has been a friend of mine for nearly 20 years. I am delighted he has been elected as president of the United Steelworkers trade union.

I could not help noticing that one of the charges against Mr. Williams was that he was described by someone as a "silver spoon unionist." If nothing else, that brought him even closer to my heart, because it makes us soul brothers in more than one sense.

I am sure all members of the House recognize that Lynn Williams is an extraordinary person. From the time he was first involved in the trade union movement, attempting to organize a certain store by the name of Eaton's, until the present day, he has been in the forefront of the fight for human rights, for an end to discrimination in the work place and for the rights of all people, whatever their background, nationality, creed, colour or sex.

After a campaign in which Mr. Williams's own nationality and background were an issue, we should all take pride that the United Steelworkers trade union, both in Canada and in the United States, has taken the high road once again in recognizing the extraordinary qualities of leadership of a very fine person. I am sure he will provide leadership of great distinction, not only to that particular union but also to the labour movement in North America in general.

#### HATE LITERATURE

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, I am today tabling the results of a study by Patrick Lawlor, QC, into our existing procedures and legislation dealing with hate propaganda.

I am pleased that Mr. Lawlor, who was our colleague here in the Legislature from 1967 to 1981, is present today in the Speaker's gallery. In his report, he has demonstrated again his ability to put forth erudite and persuasive arguments on a troubling matter and has done so with his usual flair for the use of language.

The study contains a thoughtful analysis of the very difficult social and legal issues involved in

controlling hate material directed at groups within our community. After a period of public response to the study, the government will consider various legislative and policy alternatives arising from it.

I intend to distribute Mr. Lawlor's report widely, and I hope that groups of concerned citizens will assess the proposals and offer their own views to assist the government in formulating policy.

**10:10 a.m.**

As Mr. Lawlor indicates, the question of how to control hate material defies simplistic solutions. It involves fundamental matters of freedom of speech on the one hand and our wish on the other hand to develop a sensitive and compassionate society that responds, perhaps aggressively, to the propagation of hatred towards minority groups.

As members will note in his report, Mr. Lawlor's study directs our attention to three proposals.

The first is the creation through legislation of a tort—that is, a civil wrong—to enable groups of citizens who have been subjected to hate propaganda to seek redress in the courts more readily through the civil action against the purveyors of the material. This, in effect, would be a class action.

The second, which would also be a class action, is an amendment to the Libel and Slander Act to permit civil actions by groups for defamation.

The third is an amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code to enable groups of citizens who feel they have been defamed as a group to seek relief.

Mr. Lawlor suggests this third option might be the most useful because it would be the simplest and most expeditious and would provide access to the conciliation services of the Ontario Human Rights Commission which, he notes, "seeks to heal wounds, not by punitive and vindictive sanctions, but by persuasions and conciliations." This option could also include the use of cease-and-desist orders to halt the spread of defamatory material and the use of court injunctions to enforce them.

While the solutions to the dissemination of hate propaganda are not easy to come by, Mr. Lawlor's report catalogues the problems and provides some important guidance towards solutions. It leaves no doubt about the effect of hate material on some of our neighbours and the need for all persons of goodwill to act to alleviate the pain it causes.



In his study Mr. Lawlor offers this assessment of the impact of such material:

"When we were children growing up in a seemingly more innocent world than the present, we used to chant, 'Sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me.' With a little added knowledge of psychology and the experience of a great deal of history, we have sorely learned that just the opposite is the case. Sticks and stones may in circumstances mean very little, but words may lacerate a human being. As Yeats sang sadly, there are words that will break your heart."

I want to take this opportunity to thank publicly our good friend and former colleague Patrick Lawlor, QC, for his thoughtful and most useful contribution to the resolution, or at least alleviation, of this most important and complex social and legal issue.

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, I might just say on my behalf and on behalf of my colleagues that it is certainly good to see the Irish face of the former member for Lakeshore in our presence here today, or at least to see that part of the face left remaining for inspection. It sounds like a most interesting and timely report, and we will all read it with great interest.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

### BUDGET MEASURES

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, my first question today is to the Treasurer and it concerns the upcoming provincial budget.

The Treasurer will recall that some months ago, I believe it was in December, in one of his prebudget statements he indicated, "Our budget measures must address our social priorities."

Given the fact that in the recent speech from the throne his government has had a lot to say about women's issues, will the Treasurer give this House and the women of this province an undertaking here today that the Davis tax on women, instituted in the Ontario budget of 1982—specifically, the application of the provincial sales tax to feminine hygiene products—will be eliminated, as it ought to have been eliminated two years ago?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, I will give no undertakings with regard to my budget until budget day.

**Mr. Conway:** In the light of the bilious ballyhoo of his colleague the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch) in recent days about the finest record in the free world vis-a-vis women's issues, is it the case that the Treasurer is not even considering in the spring of 1984 the elimination

of that most sexist of all taxes in the provincial sales tax regime?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** This year I have had the opportunity to add a group of women's representatives to the prebudget process, brought in by my colleague the Deputy Premier. At that prebudget meeting, women brought many well-articulated concerns before us.

It was a thoughtful and most incisive brief. It was the kind of thing that gets to the heart of the issues that really are important and have been articulated by my colleague. They are not issues that necessarily address the easy political optics, but they do get to the heart of the problem. That is the kind of thoughtful prebudget presentation our meetings and considerations are going through at the present time.

Any speculation with regard to what we are or are not considering is not going to occur, at least with my assistance, because I want to get from here to the budget date in as sensible and fair a way as possible. Any speculation that we get into with regard to what we are or are not considering only creates an uncertain and unfair environment out there, and I do not intend to get lured into that.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, there was no mention at all of any figures in the throne speech and many programs have clearly been delayed until the budget. That increases the need for a resolution of the doubt out there and the need for people to know exactly what programs are going to go ahead, how they are going to be funded and what the revenue base is going to be. Can the Treasurer please end the uncertainty today with respect to the date of the budget and tell us when it is going to be, since it is of such importance to so many people?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot do so quite yet, although I indicated last Tuesday evening in the windup to the debate on interim supply that I expected our date would not be too far off the traditional dates for spring budgets, somewhere within the usual time frame. It is no secret.

**Mr. Conway:** How can the Treasurer say he has not been speculating when for these past number of weeks and months he has been doing just that, suggesting certain specific things and concerns about agriculture? I remember a speech conveyed over the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. about two or three months ago when he was speaking in Sudbury and talking about his preferences for income as opposed to consumption taxes.



**The Deputy Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Conway:** He has been doing the very thing over the past number of weeks that he says this morning he is not prepared to do about a key issue that indicates this government is very punitive when it comes to taxes on women that ought not to apply. Is he prepared today to give the women of this province an undertaking that he is at least considering the elimination of that preposterous and outrageous tax, which was instituted by his Conservative predecessor, the member for Muskoka (Mr. F. S. Miller)?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** I have nothing to add to my previous answer.

#### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Deputy Premier, the Minister responsible for Women's Issues. The minister will remember that on Monday of this week his colleague and seatmate the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) rose in reply to a question from my House leader on the disgraceful statistics with respect to positions of women in higher authority in the Ontario educational system. She said there had been "some very significant initiatives in the past four or five years in the Ministry of Education related specifically to the roles played by women in the educational system."

Last night, in the minister's address to the chairmen and directors of school boards, he directly contradicted her. He said, "The overall picture is still pretty grim," with some statistics "being nothing short of appalling." How does he explain the contradiction between the glowing words of the minister in the House on Monday and his pretty appalling comments last night about the school boards and their lack of initiative?

10:20 a.m.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, it will come as no surprise to my friend that as far as my colleague and I are concerned there is no contradiction. We share the same information base.

I was at the conference to which the honourable member makes reference. It is a very impressive conference, well represented as far as the educational community is concerned. My colleague addresses that meeting today at noon and we are together in our resolve, along with the co-operation we expect from the educational leadership of this province, to continue to make some significant progress in the name of equality of access and advancement. There is no contra-

diction and no difference of opinion on this subject between my colleague and me.

**Mr. Wrye:** I want to talk a little about the co-operation the minister asked for last night. In his speech, of which I have a copy, he laid out the problem and some targets. He suggested 30 per cent would be an appropriate target. I am sure the minister is aware that we would have to more than double the number of elementary school principals who are women, we would have to more than triple the number of secondary school vice-principals who are women, and overall we would have to add nearly 2,000 women to senior administrative roles in the schools of Ontario to reach even that target of 30 per cent, which is a very modest target.

When the crunch came, the minister said last night, and I quote him, "Will you please make an immediate and public commitment to significantly improve the representation of women in your administrative ranks?" My question is, why did he plead with them last night? Why did he not simply order them to end this disgraceful situation rather than going once more, cap in hand, saying: "Please, please do something. It is all very embarrassing"?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** We had a very tremendous meeting last night. It was positive. I was encouraged and I am optimistic. I was dealing with some very intelligent people. I felt I was making a presentation to those who would see the merit in the name of fairness, equity and justice in advancing the cause of women throughout their systems.

The member made references to initiatives. The initiatives are in place. I am sure many in that audience would agree that it was results we were talking about, or the lack of results. I feel quite confident, thinking of the representation there from the educational community, that significant progress will be made.

I do not make any apology for presenting the case in the way I did, inviting people to accept this challenge on their own without having Big Brother or Big Sister government coming along once again, telling them something with respect to legislation and regulation. I have confidence in the voluntary response that will come from that community.

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Deputy Premier. In view of the fact that the principal situation proves the voluntary approach has not been working, and in view of this government's statement in the throne speech that it is going to encourage boards of education to bring in affirmative action, why will



he not make it mandatory, across-the-board affirmative action, as he has presumably done in the civil service—that is what he claims—so there is fair treatment for all teachers throughout the province instead of their having to rely on lobbying each school board individually and trying to persuade them to adopt it?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, I am quite convinced at this stage the voluntary approach is the proper one when dealing with reasonable people and placing the facts and figures before them. Significant progress has been made in a number of school boards, and my colleague the Minister of Education will be sharing that information with the conference today at lunch. There are school boards that have made very significant progress and have some results about which they can be quite proud and which they no doubt will share.

At this stage, we should stay with the voluntary approach and do so with some optimism. The legislative approach is always available; it would be a matter of timing if it would be necessary at all. Why not respect the fact that people now recognize this as a very important issue and attach a very high priority to it? I am quite confident we will see some important strides made in this regard.

**Mr. Wrye:** It would be well and fine if the minister were standing in his place and this were March 30, 1976, saying, "I have confidence in their ability," but this is 1984.

Last night the minister alluded to the fact that the taxpayers of Ontario, particularly the women, have a right to expect more from their publicly funded institutions. Why is he trying to shift the responsibility for this mess on to the school boards by saying the onus is on them? I would remind the minister the ultimate onus is on him and his colleague in the government of Ontario. The title of last night's conference was Focus on Leadership. Is it not about time the minister started showing some leadership in this regard?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** The employers in this situation are the school boards. We have respected the autonomy of the school boards. I remind members that school boards are elected. I reminded the trustees who were there, as the employer, that 54 per cent of their electorate were women. That happens to be the democratic process. The message should be quite clear. They are accountable to their electorate, 54 per cent of whom are women. It is about time they got busy and recognized that, because the people of this province are expecting some results. That

message was quite clear. That is the focus on leadership.

**Mr. Rae:** Some people would call it leadership and some would call it passing the buck. I guess it depends on where one is sitting.

#### PICKERING SHUTDOWN

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Treasurer. Under the terms of the so-called Pickering payback agreement signed by the Ontario government, Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. and Ontario Hydro, certain moneys have been paid over the years to the Ontario government while Pickering units 1 and 2 were in operation. Why has the Treasurer been so secretive about the fact that in 1983 the Ontario government lost \$14 million in revenues because Pickering units 1 and 2 were not in operation?

The 1984 anticipated loss is \$36 million, the 1985 anticipated loss is \$34 million and the 1986 anticipated loss is \$37 million, for a total of \$121 million in lost revenue. Why has the Treasurer been so secretive about the major impact on revenue of the shutdown at Pickering units 1 and 2? Why has he not made a full financial statement to this Legislature with respect to the impact on the budget not only of Ontario Hydro but also of Ontario, of the shutdown at Pickering for the three-and-a-half-year period?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, there has been nothing secret about it. All that information has been made available from day one. Hydro and the Minister of Energy (Mr. Andrewes) have both made clear, with regard to the real net effect of the problems the member cites, the impact felt by Hydro ratepayers and the provincial taxpayers, because part of that payback agreement does affect their obligations to the province.

There has been nothing secret about that whatever. The member may not have discovered it, he may not have read the documents, but he should not pretend there is anything secret about it. There has not been.

**Mr. Rae:** One cannot help but notice the contrast between the Treasurer's approach to this shortfall in revenue and the impact it will have on this province and its taxpayers, and the way the Treasurer has been scurrying around Ontario, indeed all Canada, complaining about the impact of the Canada Health Act and extra billing. If there is not a double standard there, I do not know where there is.

Can the Treasurer explain why he has been the first one to go around saying all the taxes will have to be raised because of a change in revenue sharing between the province and the federal



government because of extra billing? Why has he been so prepared to do that and yet we do not have a word, a peep, a sound out of the Treasurer with respect to the impact of a shutdown at Pickering units 1 and 2 for three and a half years?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** It does not matter how many times the member repeats that story, it is not going to change the facts. All that information has been available.

**Mr. Rae:** Where did the Treasurer say it? When did he make a statement in the House?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** With respect, many adjustments are made in the financial statements of the government of Ontario. They are made available to members. They are public documents that are tabled. If I were to stand up and discuss in detail every one of those adjustments, there would not be time for question period or any other business in this House.

**10:30 a.m.**

Let us be clear. Hydro and the Minister of Energy have both made it very clear that part of the reason all that cost will not be felt by the Hydro ratepayers is because it is partially offset by the payback agreement. There has never been any secret about that. The member may not have made the connection. I would think most people who have been following this and understand it have made that connection. There is nothing sublime or complicated about it. I bet most of my colleagues on this side of the House understood that from day one.

The fact the member had not realized it until now does not change the fact that all this information has been available, has been and is public, and has been pointed out by Hydro and the Minister of Energy from day one. That is the reality. It does not matter how many times the member says it, he is not going to sell that story. It has been made public.

With regard to why there is this apparent contrast, with respect, had there been an option, a policy decision available which would have prevented the taxpayers of Ontario from having to take over part of this cost, then of course I would have been speaking publicly and privately to try to avoid a policy decision which, on balance, we believe is not reasonable or fair to the taxpayers of Ontario.

This was not a policy decision open to us in the last period of time. There was a contractual obligation set in motion a number of years ago which kicks in when these events occur. There is nothing one can do to speak out about it that is

going to change a policy decision if there is a contractual obligation entered into.

Conversely, when the federal government makes a new policy decision which suddenly impacts the taxpayers of this province, it is my responsibility to speak out about that and—

**Mr. Conway:** I heard an answer, Mr. Speaker.

**The Deputy Speaker:** He is just wrapping up.

**Mr. Kerrio:** Mr. Speaker, with the projected borrowings of Ontario Hydro over the next 20 years, suggested to be some \$60 million, is the minister not concerned that in the first instance this is going to have some impact on the rating of the province vis-a-vis Ontario Hydro? Does the minister not think the Power Corporation Act should be looked into by his government and more accountability be brought to bear in Ontario Hydro?

The fact that over the years he has told us he does not want it to be a political football is a lot of something that is not credible, because in 1975, when the then honourable minister Darcy McKeough decided to put the brakes on Hydro, he just decided he would sort of hold back and limit its borrowings.

Does the minister not think it is time the highly complex, overextended, overborrowed Hydro was brought into some credibility with his government and the people of Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is no.

The answer to the second is, there are tests put on Hydro, not only inside Ontario, not only by the Ontario Energy Board and the Ministry of Energy, but also by the people who lend Hydro billions of dollars every year. I think it is safe to say if they thought they were lending money to an organization whose spending was out of control, which was bloated and every other adjective the member used, that indeed would be grounds for them wondering about the borrower, the same as any borrower.

To date, the Hydro bonds guaranteed by the government of Ontario—which has at least an equally good record for management or else the triple-A credit rating would not be in place—still sell without much difficulty among the best in the world. That is the biggest vote of confidence and one cannot suggest it is a political vote of confidence or political whitewashing of the situation. It is a market response, a market analysis to perhaps the best utility in the world. They buy their bonds, they are anxious for them.

**Mr. Rae:** It is not a market response and the Treasurer knows it. If there were a free market,



the answer would be quite different and the Treasurer is aware of that too. It is simply because the government of Ontario is guaranteeing those bonds.

I would like to get back to ask a basic point of the Treasurer about the result of the information—and I say with great respect to the Treasurer, I have never heard him, any spokesman for the government or the Minister of Energy say anything about this—

**The Deputy Speaker:** Question.

**Mr. Rae:** —that as a result of the Pickering payback agreement the government of Ontario is going to be losing \$121 million in revenues.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Question.

**Mr. Rae:** Given the fact that every other major jurisdiction in North America is reassessing the economics of nuclear power in the light of the new information and the new, tough realities about nuclear power, why is the Treasurer not pressing the government of Ontario to do the same?

Instead of simply going on with the blinkered approach he has reannounced today, saying there is no choice, there is nothing else to be done and there are no alternatives, why does he not take a fresh approach and a fresh look at what the economic costs and benefits of nuclear power really are?

To the ratepayers and taxpayers, \$121 million is a lot of money, as he pointed out when he complained about the \$50 million the government is not going to be getting from the federal government because of the commitment to extra billing. Why is he not expressing that concern within the government? Why is he not pressing for a public inquiry into the economics of nuclear power to guarantee that the future of this province is going to be as flexible, as prudent and as fiscally responsible as it needs to be to guarantee we are not simply building great blocks of electrical generation which are going to end up costing us far more than we can really afford as a province?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Many of those issues have been debated many times by the member and the Minister of Energy. The member has not succeeded in making the case with the minister, so we need not go over it again.

**Mr. Kerrio:** He is an apologist for Hydro. You cannot make the minister—

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** I have read the reports of the select committee on Ontario Hydro affairs and how the member's colleagues voted, too.

I only say to the leader of the third party that while I regret ruining his morning with the scrum outside, before he gets too outraged about the loss, as he would have it, of an arrangement we entered into related to the nuclear payback agreement, I should tell him that to date under that agreement the taxpayers have made \$216 million; that is, the government of Ontario, the consolidated revenue fund. The taxpayers have benefited by \$216 million to date under that same agreement.

He will notice I did not stand up and announce that bonus or windfall, because it is neither a bonus nor a windfall. We declared it from the start of that agreement to date. From the start of that agreement to date, we have so far made \$216 million or, to put it in some perspective, a 14 per cent return on our money. For a \$116-million investment, we have so far made \$216 million.

That information has been available each and every year as to the profit we have made, the same as the reduction in profit will now show up as a result of the events which have occurred.

Let us be honest and fair about it. (a) That information has been available. (b) We have made a large profit on that transaction. (c) That profit will still be there, though in smaller numbers as a result of these events. (d) We gave as much information about the success of that investment and the return on that investment as we did about the consequences of these events. In all cases, it was equal, full and public disclosure in the normal course.

If the member will think about it for a moment, we must do all of that to file the necessary documents to raise money in the money markets.

[Later]

**Mr. Kerrio:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: When I was putting a question to the Treasurer as to whether the triple-A rating of Ontario Hydro was in jeopardy because of its borrowings and I referred to the projected borrowings of Ontario Hydro, I may have said "in the order of \$60 million." I should have said it is \$64 billion that Ontario Hydro is proposing to borrow, and I wanted that to be very clear in the record because, of course, then the triple-A rating would be jeopardized.

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my next question is for the Minister of Labour and it concerns the plight of the 712,000 part-time workers in Ontario, 70 per cent of whom are women.

Given the full-blown statements that were made in the speech from the throne, can the



minister confirm that the number of regular part-time employees—and I emphasize the use of the word “regular” in the speech from the throne—who are going to be covered by the ministry’s initiative is somewhere between 3,000 and 3,400, and that this contrasts with an unclassified staff in the public sector of about 12,644? Can the minister confirm that is the case? Can he tell us what the government plans to do for the roughly 9,000 part-time employees in the public sector who are not covered by the government’s initiative?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, the collective agreement with the Ontario Public Service Employees Union on working conditions and employee benefits is currently under negotiation, and the issue of regular part-time employment is on the table.

**Mr. Rae:** I did not hear an answer to the question. I asked a simple question with respect to what the government’s policy is.

Who exactly is being covered? The government put out a throne speech. All sorts of numbers are thrown around. The fact of the matter is it appears its initiative is intended to cover only about a quarter of the people who are working part-time in the public sector.

10:40 a.m.

My supplementary question to the minister is simply this. From February 1981 to February 1984—and the minister knows this—as a province we have lost 48,000 full-time jobs and have gained 71,000 part-time jobs. This means the trend in the economy is very clear. Full-time jobs are being replaced by part-time jobs in the private sector as well as in the public sector.

Why was there no mention in the throne speech of measures to be undertaken on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of private-sector workers who have no protection in terms of pensions, vacation pay and fringe benefits and who have no access to the benefits which so many full-time workers have? Why was there no mention of those hundreds of thousands of people, and what will the minister be doing for those part-time workers in the private sector?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I have a particular interest in that problem in that my wife is a part-time worker. It seems to me, from my conversations with her, that she is getting some of the benefits the leader of the third party has described, such as holiday pay. That is already on the statutes.

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, the minister will know that, together with some of his colleagues, the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope) has

embarked on a very aggressive campaign to reduce full-time complement within that government ministry. Once the throne speech was before us, I called the Civil Service Commission to see whether or not the thousands of permanent casual workers within the Ministry of Natural Resources, for example, many of whom work in the Sault Ste. Marie area—certainly they work in my part of the province—will be covered in a way that the throne speech indicated.

At that time, 10 days ago, the Civil Service Commission did not know. Will the commitment that was spoken of in the throne speech be effective for the thousands of permanent casuals who are working for the Ontario government and who in many cases are finding that the number of their working weeks is being reduced and their benefits are being reduced as well?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot speak for my colleague the Minister of Natural Resources. I can just repeat what I said earlier that the issue of regular part-time employment is on the table in ongoing negotiations.

**Mr. Rae:** The minister knows that seventy per cent of the part-time workers in this province are women. The minister also knows that every single brief which has been done on the situation of part-time workers in the work place today demonstrates unequivocally that they are prejudiced against in terms of many fringe benefits, and in particular, in most cases they are not entitled to participate in pension plans. There is nothing in the Employment Standards Act which provides them with any protection with regard to pension plans.

What is the minister intending to do with respect to the Employment Standards Act to ensure that part-time workers will be able to get a pension when they retire and will not continue to receive the same kind of systematic discrimination that is now being practised against them?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** The member for York South knows what was in the throne speech in respect to the public sector. I have every confidence that will serve as an incentive to the private sector and many of the part-time employees there will begin to receive benefits from the private sector on a voluntary basis. I also feel this is a staged progress by beginning the system in the public sector, and it will continue on into the private sector.

#### TOBACCO TAXES

**Mr. G. I. Miller:** Mr. Speaker, I have a very important question for the Treasurer. As he considers the options available to him for raising



the revenue required to finance this year's budget, I would like again to bring to his attention the effect the ad valorem tobacco tax is having on the tobacco farmers in my area of Ontario.

It was brought to the attention of the meeting of the Ontario rural municipalities task force in Simcoe that this area of the province, which produces 93 per cent of Canada's tobacco crop, could be faced with a loss equivalent to the production of 500 to 800 producers this year as a result of the ad valorem tax, which I might indicate has increased by 167 per cent since 1981. Has the Treasurer given this fact some consideration as he ponders the tax measures for this year's budget, particularly when he considers the potential job loss for some 5,000 workers associated with these 500 to 800 tobacco producers?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, yes, of course. We have not spent more time with any single group since I became Treasurer than with representatives of the tobacco industry in total, including the manufacturers and growers. In fact, my colleague the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) and I met with their representatives on Wednesday of this week. I think they would report to the member that we had a very constructive and helpful meeting.

The concerns and the impact of the tax changes have been brought to my attention many times by the member for Oxford (Mr. Treleaven), the member for Elgin (Mr. McNeil) and others. From the day the impact of these tax changes first became quite apparent, they have been very effective in putting the case to me with regard to the need to keep in mind the impact of tobacco taxes on the tobacco farmers. Because of that, when we met in Ottawa in December with the finance ministers, we raised the question of the tax-on-tax spiral that has really caused this enormous price increase in the last little while.

I have already indicated our government is looking into dealing with the tax-on-tax spiral. That is not to say we are going to succeed, but we are trying to find a way to help alleviate that problem. We must do that in the context of understanding that the main spiral effect emanates out of the federal government's change in its tax policy.

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** That is a fact. The member's colleague will not deny that. He will tell the member that is what caused the problem.

In any case, might I say we had a very good meeting this week. While I am still several weeks

away from having to make recommendations to my colleagues on tax changes, the sensitivity of the tobacco crops to tax changes in this province is well known to us and we are spending a great deal of time on it.

**Mr. G. I. Miller:** I appreciate the fact that some of our other colleagues in the House have brought it to the Treasurer's attention, but I would like to make it very clear to the minister that the 500 to 800 tobacco producers that it is anticipated will be lost could well be young farmers who will probably never return. Does the Treasurer not agree it will be Ontario that will be the big loser here because the industry provides from 35,000 to 45,000 jobs annually at harvest time and creates more than \$500 million in taxes for Ontario?

The tobacco farmers do not mind paying their fair share of tax, but when the province takes 63 cents of every \$1.06 on a package of 20 cigarettes while the feds take 43 cents, I think the province is the aggressor here. I think it is time the Treasurer reduced the ad valorem tax because it is within his jurisdiction to do that. I am asking him to do that now so the industry may survive in Ontario.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Does the minister wish to reply?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** There was no question.

**Mr. G. I. Miller:** I asked the Treasurer to reduce the ad valorem tax.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. With all due respect to the minister, the member asked the minister to do something rather than for an answer. I think we did have a complete answer to the original question.

**An hon. member:** Oh, no, we did not. We did not have a complete answer.

**The Deputy Speaker:** It sure went on.

**Mr. Breaugh:** Mr. Speaker, could I ask the minister if he is reviewing, and I take it from his statement that in a way he is, or is he prepared to review the concept of automatic, unannounced taxes on taxes as being wrong? Is that what this "tax-on-tax spiral" stuff is all about?

10:50 a.m.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, let me say there are no unannounced tax increases. Let me also say the last time there was an—

**Mr. Wildman:** It is automatic.

**Mr. Breaugh:** I did not see the announcement about the last one.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The last time there was an adjustment in tobacco tax because of the



particular system in place was in January, when the system that is currently in place caused a modest reduction in the tobacco tax that is being levied this quarter. It was announced or implemented in the same way all other tax changes are implemented. There is nothing secret about that system. In fact, it is the very knowledge of that system that is causing people to be concerned, and I think they have some reason to be concerned about that spiralling system.

#### TELEPHONE RATES

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations on the request just made by Bell Canada Enterprises to increase the private telephone rate by six per cent and to increase most of the other rates by six per cent.

In view of the fact that there has been a 50 per cent increase in telephone rates in Metro since 1980 and similar increases elsewhere in Ontario, and in view of the fact that Bell has increased its profit by 200 per cent since 1980, with 25 cents of every customer's dollar now going into the company's gross profits, would the minister not agree with me that this request by Bell is preposterous?

Would he not make a forceful request to the federal government and make an application to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission for a reduction in rates so this giant monopoly will be prevented from its ongoing practice of gouging its Ontario customers?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, as the member for Welland-Thorold well knows, matters related to Bell's telephone rate increases are in the domain of the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow), but of course we make our views known to him.

I would like to make it clear, however, that when he singles out those particular rates, he fails to mention, from the information I have available to me at the present time, that the overall revenue increases from the total package that has been presented to the federal government do come well within the guidelines they have proposed for themselves.

For him to take out part of it without telling the whole story may do him some political good, and it is in line with the way he usually deals with things—by visiting Buffalo and finding a can of apple juice that is a little cheaper there than it is here—but it never tells the whole story. That is the problem he has.

Certainly, we will be reviewing the total application, minus the apple juice, and we will be conveying our views to the minister so that if there is an appropriate presentation to be made, it will be made.

**Mr. Swart:** That is a pretty dead line for the people of Ontario.

The minister must recognize that his government has a five per cent guideline on salary and wage incomes. When will he and his government show some fairness and intervene to demand that the income of Bell, a monopoly that has never felt the depression, be subject to the same restraint as the other segments of society, recognizing that it had a 20 per cent increase in its income last year?

Would he not agree that the application of the new chip and computer technology to Bell's operations by its very nature permits it to increase its profits massively even if it gets little or no increase in rates? For instance, in the last two years it has cut its work force by 4,000 while increasing profits by 25 per cent. Does the minister not think that customers should get part of the saving instead of all of it going into Bell's profits?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** As I said, we will be analysing the material that is available to us to give our views to the Minister of Transportation and Communications so that it may be conveyed to the federal government in line with the review that will take place here.

But let me say from my knowledge that during the period of wage and price restraint within the public sector there has not been an increase awarded to Bell that was outside the guidelines proposed by the federal government. If the member has information to the contrary, he should stand up and say so, but he should not start plucking out little things, as he likes to do, without telling the whole story.

#### GRANGE COMMISSION INQUIRY

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General. The minister will no doubt recall his own words in establishing the Grange commission inquiry. He said: "The terms of reference for the commission expressly provide that the inquiry is not to involve any conclusion of law regarding civil or criminal responsibility. This provision was made to ensure that the commission would not function or be regarded as a criminal or civil trial. Trial by commission of inquiry is simply a concept that is totally foreign to the laws and the traditions of this province."



In view of the minister's already-stated strong feelings on this subject, if the Court of Appeal upholds the Divisional Court decision to allow the naming of names by the commission of inquiry, will the minister immediately amend the order in council to change that authority and to clarify his already-stated intentions regarding the purpose of this commission?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, as the member quite accurately states, this matter is before the Court of Appeal. Through my counsel who appeared before the Court of Appeal, we expressed our concerns in the context of the remarks the honourable member has just mentioned. It would be presumptuous of me to speculate at this point about what we might do in the event of a decision we have not yet received. At this time I do not intend to speculate as to what might or might not be an appropriate course of action, but simply to await the Court of Appeal's decision, which I think will be a useful guidepost for us all.

**Ms. Copps:** The minister is no doubt aware that in this instance speed is an issue that should be considered. I am not asking the minister to speculate on the Court of Appeal's decision. He has already stated quite clearly to this House, "The object of a royal commission is to determine the facts, not to try individuals or institutions, and this consideration is sufficient to guide the commissioner in the performance of his duty."

In view of his already-stated intention that this is not a criminal or civil trial, will he not assure this House that if the Court of Appeal decision allows the naming of names, he will be prepared immediately to redraft the terms of reference of the royal commission to make sure his already-stated intentions are guaranteed, and that those individuals who are involved in the process will be provided the protection he assured this House was going to be provided to them when he announced the original royal commission?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** There is no question in my mind that it would be most inappropriate and perhaps even improper for me to make any such statement pending the decision of the Court of Appeal.

The matter is before the Court of Appeal and is obviously being given careful consideration by five members of that court. It would be inappropriate for me to state anything in this House that might be interpreted as an attempt to influence that decision one way or the other, and that would be the interpretation some would place on the statement the member is inviting. I

have to repeat what I have said. I do not intend to say anything about the matter as far as the terms of reference are concerned until we have a decision by the Court of Appeal.

#### COMMUNITY GRANTS

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Treasurer. The Treasurer will be aware that over the last number of years the city of Windsor has been hard hit by the economic depression, specifically in the auto industry. Why has the government decided to end the special grants that are given to communities that are hard hit in recognition of the extra strain that has been put on those communities? Why was it the government's decision that Windsor is no longer going to qualify for those grants, especially when one considers that our city still has nearly 20,000 unemployed people registered with the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission and looking for work, which works out to nearly 17 per cent of the work force.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, the decisions with regard to the allocations of the moneys we make available under that program are within the responsibility of my colleague the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett). I might suggest the member redirect the question to him.

**11 a.m.**

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, in relation to the question that has been asked about the special grants to various municipalities across the province, the honourable member will realize we released a list this past Wednesday that affected some 30 communities.

When we were trying to determine how we could help some of the municipalities that have experienced rather large tax increases and at the same time have experienced high unemployment factors, we did the same as we did last year and took the average of the unemployment situation in Ontario, which came to a 10.4 per cent position over a 12-month period, and added a factor that would try to compensate some of the excessively high unemployment areas in the province.

We used a 40 per cent increase factor, which brought us to a 14.5 per cent unemployment average over the 12-month period. From that point, we moved forward to grant on a per capita basis an allocation of funding to try to absorb some of the extra costs and some of the difficulties those municipalities are facing. I have a limited amount of money, and this formula we have worked out seems to have been



able to resolve some of the problems. I acknowledge the fact that it does not resolve them all.

**Mr. Cooke:** If the minister is using Statistics Canada figures, which I assume he is, he must be aware that those figures are completely and totally inaccurate on a community-by-community basis. In fact, when the city of Windsor was having its dispute with the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, this government supported Windsor's position that the Statscan figures were totally inaccurate on a local basis.

I am wondering how the minister can possibly make determinations on special grants based on Statscan figures, recognizing that the Ministry of Industry and Trade goes by a figure of around 17 per cent unemployment in Windsor and recognizing that the figures of people registered with the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission point out very clearly there are 20,000 people unemployed in the city of Windsor, which represents nearly 17 per cent of the work force.

The city is still suffering. Will the minister reconsider the government's decision and take a second look at whether Windsor should receive the special grant?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** I acknowledge the fact that we use Statscan figures. Obviously they are the only figures at this moment that have a degree of being accepted on a universal basis, not only in Ontario but also in Canada. While there always will be disputes as to whether they are absolutely correct, when I come to try to design a formula, I must use one set of figures for a common situation throughout the grant formula basis in the province.

In relation to the last request of the member, yes, I will review the situation in Windsor. I understand the mayor has been trying to reach me this morning.

**Mr. Cunningham:** Mr. Speaker, we in Hamilton-Wentworth are very happy to receive the \$1.5 million announced the day before the visit of our task force to Hamilton on Wednesday, but that barely offsets the \$1.7-million decrease we are going to get in educational funding, which is simply inadequate.

Will the minister commit himself to some long-term planning so we can eliminate the ad hockery in which our school boards and our municipalities find themselves in paring down their budgets and then having to readjust when they get some pittance from this government in the last hour of the game? Will the minister commit himself to some long-term, sensible

program of funding so this ad hockery can be terminated?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, that is a rather interesting question. I do not know whether the honourable member has absented himself from listening to any of the comments that have been made by me and other members of this government.

When I attended the Association of Municipalities of Ontario annual convention, I made it abundantly clear on two specific occasions that this government is no different from any other government in the land. There are certain shortfalls in the amount of revenue we have coming in. At the same time, we are all experiencing pressures for more and more expenditures, whether they be in the health field, in municipal affairs or whatever it happens to be.

To put things very concisely and clearly, I said to the municipalities I could only give them the assurance that I would attempt to find funding within the new allocation each year, within the budget of the province. I warned them the rate of increase in transfer payments by the province would be little or nothing. I suggest most municipalities heeded that advice and accepted that warning.

As in past years, we have found ways of trying to assist municipalities which, as I said to the member for Windsor-Riverside (Mr. Cooke), have experienced some difficulties. I do not consider it a pittance, nor does Anne Jones consider it a pittance. Most municipalities that have received it do not consider it a pittance; they see it as an additional understanding by this sensitive government in trying to assist them in their financial requirements for those communities.

**Mr. Cunningham:** It is a pittance compared to what you did for your own municipality.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Cunningham:** It is a pittance compared to what you gave to Ottawa.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: Let me just correct the interjection because it is on the record. Clearly, I have explained—

**Mr. Rae:** You cannot correct an interjection, for God's sake.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member is correct. The minister wished to rise on a point of order and I believe he was doing so.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: The honourable member referred to the fact that there has been a difference in the allocation going to Ottawa-Carleton and the city



of Ottawa. At the time I announced the transfer payment, I think I made very clear why this happened. The member should read the facts. His is the party that raised complaints about the way we handled police grants.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Minister, it is not a point of order; it was an interjection.

#### ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

**Mr. Van Horne:** Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask a question to the same minister and it is rather appropriate, given the present tone, that I ask a question about fireplaces. My question of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing relates to the Ontario Building Code.

Section 20 of the building code states that where it appears to the minister that there is or may be a failure in construction standards or in the enforcement of the building code, the minister may designate a person to conduct an inquiry into such a failure.

It has come to my attention that some home owners in a fairly new subdivision in my community have discovered that fireplace construction in their homes does not meet building code standards. The building inspection department in our community is aware of the problem but claims its hands are almost tied in this regard.

In the light of these comments, I am wondering whether the minister is prepared to designate someone to conduct an inquiry into the difficulties in the area of residential fireplace construction.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the specific subdivision to which the honourable member refers. I am not about to say I will appoint anyone to do an inquiry, but I will take it under advisement and review it within the ministry and try to come to a conclusion as to whether there have been some infractions, and if so what we should do from that point on.

**Mr. Van Horne:** In pursuing the issue, the building inspection people tell me the existing stages for inspection, particularly in residential construction, are not adequate to accommodate that particular facet of building; that is, the heat and smoke chamber of the fireplace.

I have also been told that whereas this has been drawn to the attention of the Building Code Commission here in Toronto and the commission says it is not a problem, the fact is that it is a problem. I have pictorial proof, and I will send the minister this envelope with a graphic illustration of how inappropriate inspection does lead to a very dangerous situation. It is inappropriate because it is not inspected at a time when

the inspector can see all of the chamber. What happens is that part of the chamber is bricked over or covered over and they are not able to see it in its entirety.

A suggestion has been made that a new inspection phase be brought into the code to accommodate this problem. As the minister considers the matter, will he please look into the addition of an inspection stage to accommodate this problem?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** One of the things we are most concerned about under the building code is the life safety factors. If the problem the member refers to is in any way reducing the life safety factors in the construction of homes or units in this province, we are most concerned about it. I will await the information he has. I will take it under advisement with my senior staff in the building code branch. As he knows, we are going through some revisions right now with building codes to try to improve them, upgrade them, to make them even more workable for the consumers and the builders.

If there are some difficulties in this respect, certainly we will be more than anxious to make sure that they are corrected and that the proper inspection is carried out at the proper time so whatever corrections have to be made can be made. I thank the member for raising the question.

11:10 a.m.

#### FAMILY LAW REFORM

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General. Will the Attorney General tell the House exactly what is meant by the extremely vague statements relating to the Family Law Reform Act in that massive obscurity presented as a throne speech on March 20?

The speech says, "The definition of family property will be reviewed." I thought the Attorney General had been reviewing it for the past 15 months after his December 1982 statement to that effect. Second, the throne speech says, "In order to maintain the integrity of the Family Law Reform Act, amendments will be proposed."

In view of the fact that many women and some men are suffering severe hardship from the deficiencies in that act, will he let us know when he plans to introduce these promised amendments?

Also, is he really intending to recognize what the preamble to the act says, that marriage is a form of partnership, and to provide for equal sharing of all assets, including pensions, regis-



tered retirement savings plans, insurance policies and business assets acquired during marriage, as was recommended by the Ontario Law Reform Commission in 1974 and as is done under the laws of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, first of all, I hope the honourable member recognizes, as the majority of the public does, that the Family Law Reform Act that was passed in this Legislature and became law at the end of March 1978 is one of the most important pieces of reform legislation this Legislature has passed in many years.

Despite any existing problems with respect to that legislation, I hope the member does recognize that the existing legislation has provided a very significant measure of fairness, equity and justice for individuals who are caught up in the very unhappy situation that almost invariably follows any marriage breakdown.

In responding to the member's question, I do not want anyone to think I regard the existing Family Law Reform Act as containing some very significant problems when it comes to dealing with these matters in an equitable manner. It is important to recognize, particularly with so much emphasis on the issue of family assets, that although there is not a presumption of the sharing of business assets, the courts in many cases have attached business assets to arrive at a fair conclusion, and the act at the present time is working well.

The issue of the redefinition of family assets is being addressed; it has been under very careful review, as the member pointed out, for 15 months. It is a very difficult and important issue; the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch) and I have had many conversations in relation to this issue, and we both have been giving it a very high priority.

I expect legislation will be introduced before the end of this spring; and once cabinet has reached a decision, I further expect the initiatives that Ontario is taking on a national basis with respect to the more effective enforcement of support and maintenance orders also will be a matter of some importance.

### PETITION

#### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by people from Leamington, Chatham, Windsor, Kingsville, Amherstburg, Colchester South and St. Clair Beach.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

### INTRODUCTION OF BILL

#### DAYLIGHTER ACT

Mr. Breagh moved, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie, first reading of Bill 21, An Act to amend the Highway Traffic Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Breagh:** Mr. Speaker, this amendment to the Highway Traffic Act comes during a week known as Daylighter Week. It provides for the use of low-beam headlights at all times when motor vehicles are on the highways. The short title of the bill is the Daylighter Act.

I believe it is a cost-efficient and relatively useful technique which, according to the federal Department of Transport, will reduce accidents on the highways by up to 20 per cent. The statistics do vary somewhat in other jurisdictions; some have achieved in excess of a 30 per cent reduction in accidents by this rather simple, cost-effective technique.

11:20 a.m.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

(continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, last night I had about 40 minutes to comment on the government's throne speech. I know other members are anxious to get their views on the record. I hope to be able to wrap up in a few moments.

I will take to heart the comments you made to me this morning about not being overly mean to the government. I want to promise you, in the best way I possibly can, I will not be mean to the government. However, I have to be fair and positive, I have to make the record clear and I



certainly have to judge the government's record. If it seems as though I am being mean, I do not really think I am; it is just that the record of the government is so poor.

This morning we heard my colleague the member for Windsor-Sandwich (Mr. Wrye) question the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) concerning statements she had made about affirmative action in the school system. We heard comments made by the Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch), and we could see by comparing the quotes made by these two ministers that they are in direct contradiction.

This is a major problem we face in the province. There was some vague comment made in the speech from the throne that this matter was going to be looked at and was somehow going to be resolved. The matter will never be improved until the government itself knows exactly what it wants to do, when the cabinet ministers know what they want to do and when they can get together and agree on what they want to do. That is the only way we will be able to resolve the unfairness which exists in the school system where even the women who want to be principals and vice-principals and are very capable of doing that work are not given the opportunity, even though they have the ability. We will never be able to make the system fair unless we have the leadership, co-ordination and dedication from this government to make it happen.

We have seen from the statistics quoted the situation is worse now than it was in the past. In my view, this is shameful. Last night I mentioned that I spoke to the Essex County Women Teachers Association a year ago and I have done some research on my own in this matter. I was truly shocked. I was not aware of just how poorly women were represented in senior posts in our school system.

The government mentioned in the throne speech that the matter of the Ontario Board of Censors was in the courts and the government was committed to ensuring that violence against women and movies of such nature were going to be censored. Those are the types of statements we have been hearing from the government.

When the government knows—it has a decision from the Supreme Court which is about a year old—the existing legislation under which the censor board operates is not valid, I do not understand why the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) would not come forward with legislation to change the present legislation so that the censor board can go on with its work.

I know a number of members of this House have visited the censor board and we have seen what they referred to as the outtakes. I believe the majority of members who have seen those outtakes agree some of that nonsense and unnecessary violence in movies, especially violence perpetrated against women, is really nothing but trash and a mechanism to desensitize people watching the movies and unfortunately making it appear that these things are normal. They are not normal, they are very perverted. I want the board to be able to do its job and I want the government to move on the new legislation that is necessary.

We get a lot of statements from the government that it wishes to do this, that and the other, but here it has an opportunity. They already have a judgement from the Supreme Court. They know what is lacking in the law and how to tighten it up. I wish they would get on with it instead of making further vague comments in the throne speech which serve no purpose at all.

The throne speech mentioned the important matter of nursing homes and chronic care beds. I have made personal representation to the Deputy Minister of Community and Social Services and have brought to his attention the fact that we are short of nursing home beds in the constituency of Essex South. I know from speaking with my colleagues on all sides of the House and from reading information on this subject we are short of nursing home beds all across this province.

The government talked in the throne speech about taking care of the elderly. They said society is judged on how we take care of our elderly. If we are not going to make nursing home beds available to our elderly, if we are not going to make chronic care beds available to our elderly, we know how to judge this government exactly.

We know they make a lot of statements and they try to paper over things, but when the time comes to place resources where they are needed, for some reason they are not there—possibly because they have already spent all the money on Suncor to give them a window in the oil industry. I am sure when the Premier (Mr. Davis) looks out that window some time next week he might figure out why Shell Canada is going to take 1,000 jobs from the province.

**Mr. Wildman:** The window is fogged up.

**Mr. Mancini:** It is a foggy window, yes. The member for Algoma is correct.

It is terribly expensive, as we all know, to keep our elderly citizens in hospitals, where it costs



anywhere from \$140 to \$180 a day, when it would cost anywhere from \$40 to \$65 a day to keep them in nursing home beds. This is not only a travesty, but also a tremendous waste of dollars.

We have very few dollars in Ontario to waste. On a regular basis, we are getting close to anywhere from a \$2.4-billion to \$2.8-billion annual deficit. We have no dollars to waste. Why a government would sit back and allow this to happen, I do not know. They are the ones who have to provide the answers. People such as my friend the member for Scarborough-Ellesmere (Mr. Robinson), who may be going to take part in the throne speech debate later on, might tell us why his government wishes to do that. I see he wants to stand immediately. If he just hangs on, he will have his turn.

In regard to the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, I mentioned the Highway 401 service centres and other matters last night. Since I did not have time last night, I want to take this opportunity to remind the House—I notice Mr. Speaker has just put on white gloves. I am not sure what that means. If there is anybody I know who looks good in white gloves, it is you, sir.

More than a year ago I brought to the attention of the House the shenanigans of the Urban Transportation Development Corp. when it was found out this corporation had a subsidiary corporation called Metro Canada. The subsidiary corporation of this crown corporation, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, had gone out to Vancouver and had purchased four very expensive homes.

I have in front of me a photograph of one of the homes, which cost more than \$335,000. I can see a huge home with plush surroundings and a "For sale" sign in the front. UTDC bought these homes, spending nearly \$1 million, so four executives could live in plush surroundings in Vancouver. Less than a year later the crown corporation was forced to sell the homes. I am told the reason is that the executives for whom the homes were bought had quit and left the corporation.

11:30 a.m.

**Mr. Kerrio:** Were they Canadians?

**Mr. Mancini:** I am not sure.

**Mr. Kerrio:** I think three were Americans.

**Mr. Mancini:** That is a good question; it will be put to the minister.

**Mr. Kerrio:** That is the big insult.

**Mr. Mancini:** I want to thank the member for Niagara Falls for bringing that to my attention.

We should ask the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow) whether or not these four executives were Canadians; not that it makes this unbelievable deal any better.

It was also brought to the attention of the House at that time that this same crown corporation, the Urban Transportation Development Corp., had more than 26 executive-style vehicles available for its executives. Everybody from the janitor on up to the president of the corporation was supplied with a very fancy and expensive car—a shameful display of wasting government and taxpayers' dollars.

When I brought this to the attention of the minister, he said there was no waste of money. He said, "This is the way business is conducted in Ontario, and you will see that we are going to come out of this without any losses." The Minister of Transportation and Communications may think this is the way business should be done in Ontario, but this party does not believe this is the way business should be done in our province. We do not have \$1 million to waste so that executives can live in plush surroundings in Vancouver.

Recently, on February 17, 1984, the *Globe and Mail* did a review of the subject. It stated that since these executives had now quit their jobs, the Urban Transportation Development Corp., an agency of this government, was forced to sell these homes; and this crown corporation took a loss of \$250,000, money that could have been used for nursing home beds and for many of the other vital things we need in this province.

It can be shown time and again it is not money we lack in this province, it is administration that we lack. We could have all the money in the world, but if it is going to be wasted and if it is going to be administered badly, we are never going to have enough money to take care of the needs of society in our province.

I want to put the Minister of Transportation and Communications on notice that he will be receiving more questions about this crown corporation, about the vehicles it provides for executives and about the nationality of its executives, whether they are Canadian or American. I know my colleague the member for Wentworth North (Mr. Cunningham), who has been a steady and diligent critic of this crown corporation, will also be putting questions.

We are not criticizing this crown corporation just because it is fun to criticize. No, we are criticizing this crown corporation because it is operating as if it were outside the jurisdiction of government, it is operating in a wasteful manner



and it is wasting a valuable resource, the tax dollars we have, and we have very few of those.

Last year I brought to the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) an agricultural problem we had in our province vis-a-vis Quebec. I would like to read into the record a letter of August 8, 1983, that I directed to the minister.

"Dear Mr. Timbrell:

"As you know, Essex county is one of the largest producers of the red field tomatoes serving the fresh vegetable market. Our production is in the 600- to 700-acre range. Nineteen eighty-one figures (which was a poor year) show that 8.2 million pounds were produced. Of the above production, approximately 40 per cent serves the Quebec market.

"In the last two weeks, the Quebec government officials have been preventing the distribution of Ontario tomatoes throughout the province. Quebec officials claim that only tomatoes in four-quart baskets will be allowed free distribution.

"Ontario, in conjunction with all other provinces, agreed to distribute tomatoes as well as fresh fruit, in four-litre baskets. This decision was made with the consent of the Canadian Horticultural Council, a liaison group between industry and government. Quebec was consulted on this matter and did not oppose the change from the four-quart basket to the four-litre basket.

"I have been advised that Quebec is encouraging the growth of a tomato industry which would serve the consumer demands of that province. Therefore, it appears to me that the government of Quebec is imposing an artificial tariff on Ontario-grown tomatoes. While no one would want to discourage Quebecers in attempting to serve their own consumer market, the actions which are being taken, at the present time, are causing considerable market disruption for Essex county farmers without just cause.

"I understand that provinces have jurisdiction over commerce which takes place within their own boundaries; therefore, this matter can only be solved by agreement with Ontario and Quebec.

"I would ask that you please contact the Quebec Minister of Agriculture and do whatever is reasonably possible to try to solve this problem. As tomatoes are a perishable product, I am sure you realize the urgency of this matter."

I received the following letter, dated September 28.

"Dear Remo:

"Thank you for your letter of August 8, 1983, in which you summarized the development of the four-quart/four-litre basket issue. I share your concern for the disruption of the Quebec market for tomatoes from Essex county, and from many other areas of this province. However, as you suggest, provincial jurisdiction includes many aspects of commerce or trade within a province and the Quebec government was, in fact, within its jurisdiction in restricting trade to the imperial measure baskets."

Of course, that was quite well known. Going back to the letter:

"We have received assurances from the Quebec government that four-litre baskets will be a legal, acceptable container within Quebec once the appropriate amendments are made to the federal regulations.

"My efforts to resolve this matter, therefore, have been directed to Mr. Whelan who has indicated that the necessary amendments should be made very shortly. Mr. Whelan's assurances have been confirmed by Agriculture Canada personnel, who report that the amendments should appear in the Canada Gazette the week of September 26.

"I realize that the late passage of these amendments will stimulate few, if any, Quebec sales of Ontario field tomatoes. However, I trust that these amendments will be made and that Ontario apples and potatoes in metric containers will be permitted into Quebec in the near future."

This problem is a year old. It has been a year since we brought this to the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Food. The problem is still not resolved.

I recently received representation from area farmers who are unsure of the Quebec government's intention to accept either four quarts or four litres—I should say the imperial measurement or the nonimperial measurement. I have made calls myself to the Quebec Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. As of last week, they are still unsure how they are going to deal with this matter.

The Minister of Agriculture and Food has had a year to work out an agreement with the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in Quebec. We still have no agreement. What are the farmers supposed to do? Are they supposed to abandon their land? Of course not. Even you would not suggest that, Mr. Speaker, even though you are from the metropolitan area.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** What has that to do with anything?



**Mr. Mancini:** Why do you not get together with the Minister responsible for Women's Issues so you are saying the same thing?

**11:40 a.m.**

Soon it will be time for farmers to make financial decisions. We want to know where the farmers stand vis-a-vis the export of Ontario tomatoes to Quebec. We want an answer from the Minister of Agriculture and Food. We want to know if he is going to work out an arrangement so our tomatoes can be sold in Quebec. We are very disappointed that after one year we are not certain where we stand on this very important issue. With the tremendous problems farmers have had in the past two or three years because of high input costs and high interest rates, the farmers cannot survive if they are unable to produce a product and then ship it to market. I am hoping that within a very short period of time we will hear from the Minister of Agriculture and Food about what he has worked out.

All this talk about having Mr. Whelan do this and Mr. Whelan do that is typical of this government. It is another deflection of a problem to Ottawa. If anyone would take a moment to investigate how trade is conducted in this country, he would realize that once the product leaves one provincial jurisdiction and enters another provincial jurisdiction it is that province, not the government of Canada, that has sole authority and responsibility.

Mr. Whelan can ensure the tomatoes go from southwestern Ontario to Montreal, but Mr. Whelan cannot ensure that once the tomatoes get to Montreal they will be distributed throughout that province.

**Mr. Shymko:** What about potatoes?

**Mr. Mancini:** It is not a funny matter.

The Minister of Agriculture and Food and the minister from Quebec are the ones who can solve this problem, not Mr. Whelan.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Whelan could not solve anything.

**Mr. Mancini:** It is always nice when the Minister of Education is around. Her statements are always so clear, so firm and so—

**Mr. Van Horne:** Delicate.

**Mr. Mancini:** —delicate. The throne speech mentioned the modernization plan for the commercial fishing industry would continue and would go into effect. Over the past few days we have seen the result of the government's modernization plan for the commercial fishing industry. It is a complete disaster.

I have received representations from just about everyone involved in the fishing industry. What this government is doing is deliberately and without compensation trying to put a great number of people out of business. This government has allowed a certain number—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Come on, be factual and be truthful.

**Mr. Mancini:** The Minister of Education says, "Be factual." Let me give her an example. She has some friends in Wheatley. Yes, she does.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** His campaign manager, as a matter of fact. How is he?

**Mr. Mancini:** I saw him a couple of weeks ago at a federal Liberal event and he was doing quite well. I did not get a chance to speak to him personally, but when I do he always gives his best regards to the minister. Yes, that is true.

**Mr. Grande:** Tories and Liberals unite.

**Mr. Mancini:** For example, if the Minister of Education were fortunate enough, or unfortunate as is the case at the present time, to own a fishing licence, in the past her licence allowed her to catch so many thousand pounds of smelt, perch, pickerel, white bass, etc. The government has come out with a modernization plan which greatly reduces, by government order, the tonnage that a licence holder can catch. If the licence holder is unable to meet his debts because he is unable to reap the necessary harvest, is that not putting people out of business by government order?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** There are other aspects to this which the member is not mentioning.

**Mr. Mancini:** I see. The minister says there are other aspects. If she can give us a full explanation when she gives her reply to the throne speech, I promise to be here and to listen as closely as I can.

As the matter now stands, I know the government House leader would never be a party to this. He would never put entrepreneurs out of the business by government order. I know he is much more sensitive than that. He would not take this drastic approach to the commercial fishing industry, but I suppose he cannot get his way in cabinet and that is where the matter stands.

The commercial fishing industry provides hundreds of jobs. It has provided millions of dollars of investment and a tremendous number of export dollars for Ontario and for Canada. Large numbers, the vast majority, of the pounds



caught are exported, and our province has to live on export.

Yesterday I questioned the minister in the House. As usual we did not get answers to the specific questions I asked. We always get a lecture. We always get a statement about the meetings that have taken place. Some are with him or with his bureaucrats or the fishermen—and some are all by himself, I guess. We never get a direct answer as to what he is going to do to limit the pain that is now being felt in the commercial fishing industry.

There is no doubt in my mind that at least 30 per cent of the commercial fishermen either will go into bankruptcy because of this modernization plan or will be forced to sell their licences at tremendous losses, when one considers the huge investments required to put a boat on the water. Furthermore, the fish packers and fish processing plants also will be hurt. I would not be surprised if some of them were forced to close down or go into bankruptcy. This has been caused by the modernization plan.

I want to put on the record that the government could not come up with a plan that would satisfy everyone in the industry. I am not suggesting that to the Conservative government. Indeed, it would be impossible for them to come up with a plan that would make everyone totally satisfied, but with thought, consideration and a little bit of diligence, certainly we could come up with a plan that would satisfy the great majority of the people involved in this industry.

Last year I introduced legislation which would require that consumer contracts be readable and understandable. This matter was debated. The bill passed second reading. We had a roll-call vote. The majority of the members of this House voted to support the bill I had introduced.

Many cabinet ministers stood in their places and supported the bill I had introduced, which would protect consumers. Yet there has been no action by the government either to bring forward my bill or a similar bill of its own. What hypocrisy. If they do not think the bill is adequate or fair or if they have no intention of doing anything with it, even if they do think it is adequate and fair, they should not stand up and vote for it. They are sending out the wrong message to the consumers, to the public.

**11:50 a.m.**

The Globe and Mail consumer editorialist was here in the gallery that day. She reviewed the legislation extensively. She reviewed the debate that took place. As a matter of fact, she was here for the debate and wrote a column on the

legislation. That column mentioned that some cabinet ministers supported the bill and that the majority of the members of the Legislature supported the bill.

Thousands of people would have read that article. Many would probably have believed that, since the majority of the members of the House were in support of such a resolution, we would soon have a law that would require consumer contracts to be readable and understandable. However, a good many months have passed, and we have seen no intention whatsoever from this government to move forward with such a bill.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Globe and Mail for giving the in-depth review they did on this piece of legislation that I introduced. By giving an in-depth review, they were able to comment sensibly on it.

I resented very deeply the editorial that appeared in the Toronto Star picking out a minor point and trying to discredit the bill. I did not receive a single phone call from anyone at the Toronto Star asking about the bill; I do not remember a single article placed in the Star about the bill. I am somewhat surprised when an editorialist, sitting in the head office at the Toronto Star, decides to write an editorial on a matter about which I am presuming, unless I can be shown differently, he or she knew very little.

No legislation is perfect when it is introduced in the House. That is why legislation goes to committee of the whole House and to committees generally. But the actual intent of the legislation was made clear to all who were here and who followed the legislation. It was to protect consumers.

I want at this time to congratulate the few private companies that are at this time providing contracts to their clients in plain English. I say to the other companies that are not that it appears to me there is no good reason why they are not.

Some weeks ago I read in the media about an individual who had arranged a mortgage on his home. After having paid on the mortgage for some five years, when the mortgage came up for renewal he owed more money on the home than he had when he started out five years earlier. The individual was asked: "Were you aware of this? Did you understand the contract?" He said: "No, I did not understand the contract. I assumed, as everyone does, that since I was paying it, at the end of five years I would owe less than I did before." Unfortunately, the contract was written in such a way and the payments were arranged in such a way that this was not the case. This is only one example of many we could bring forward to



the House that would justify plain-language contracts.

I do not want to hear the argument from the Tories that it is difficult, that it cannot be done. I do not want to hear arguments from lawyers who say, "Over 100 years we have built up traditions in the courts and certain words mean certain things." The fact is that companies that have wanted to move towards plain-language contracts have done so and have done so very well without any problems in the courts, without any problems in their corporations and with great benefit to their clients.

I want to wrap up by mentioning to the members of the assembly that if they have not already done so, they should take the opportunity when they are in the southwestern Ontario area to visit the fine county of Essex. We have many fine tourist attractions. If, for example, they were to come to Amherstburg, which is my home town, they could spend an enjoyable day on Bob-Lo Island, which is an amusement park situated right in the middle of the Detroit River, a very family-oriented park with many acres of park ground, picnic benches and amusement rides. They could also visit the North American Black Historical Museum and the Gibson Gallery. They could visit the beautiful waterfront of Amherstburg and many other fine scenic spots.

They can even come and visit me. I would love to entertain members of this House and give them a personal tour of the riding as best I can. I do not want to forget to mention Fort Malden National Historical Park, a relic from the War of 1812 that has been refurbished to a tremendous extent by the government of Canada. It is a tremendous tourist attraction with a beautiful location right on the Detroit River. It is a family oriented type of museum with park grounds etc. They could visit the southwestern Ontario—

**Mr. Kennedy:** Will it be an all-expenses-paid tour?

**Mr. Mancini:** My friend the member for Mississauga South asks, "Will it be an all-expenses-paid tour?" I am assuming he is asking if I will pick up the tab. If not too many members visit all at once, I think I can pick up part of the tab, but if they all come at the same time, I think we will have to go Dutch.

As we move easterly in my constituency, we have a museum that has been established by a local citizenry to promote interest in heritage cars. People such as Harry Bergman and others have spent hundreds, maybe thousands of dollars of their own money to turn this into a first-class tourist stop. They have made arrange-

ments for many students and others to go through their grounds. They have spent a lot of money. I have been there myself on occasion and it is a very worthwhile stop.

As we move easterly across my riding, we are very fortunate to have the shore of Lake Erie in that part of the county. The scenery is always beautiful. Large Great Lakes ships can always be seen and the small boat industry is quite active. Many of our own citizens and citizens from Ohio and Michigan use the lake extensively for their own pleasure.

Kingsville is a very fine town with a lot of large older homes. I have always been fascinated by Kingsville, especially the older homes that have been well maintained. I think it would be worth while for any member to stop there. I spend quite a bit of time there myself meeting with the local citizenry. I was there some time ago and I met with the Rebekahs, a very strong community organization in Kingsville. They are going to remodel their building. It is of a heritage nature and is well over 100 years old. We are going to work in co-operation with the town of Kingsville and with the Ontario Heritage Foundation to have the front of that building brought back to its original form.

Kingsville has also become the host of the Highland Games. I was fortunate enough to attend last year and literally hundreds and hundreds of people interested in bagpipes and music of that nature were there. It was a tremendous success, and I am told Kingsville is going to do it again this year.

## 12 noon

As we continue to move easterly, we get to what is the hub of southeastern Essex county, and that is the town of Leamington, surrounded by lush farm lands and hundreds of acres of greenhouses, which my friend the Minister of Agriculture and Food has come to know very well. I take great pride in having brought the concerns of the greenhouse growers to the attention of this House over the years. For a long period of time, it had been an industry that had been completely ignored by the government of Ontario. However, that has improved over the last few years, principally because of good representation made by members of the industry and through the opportunity to meet with appropriate officials in the government.

I want to mention Duncan Allan, the former Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food, because he did show a lot of concern for the greenhouse industry. I also have to give credit to the present minister, because he has shown deep



concern for the greenhouse industry. Whenever I have represented the industry's concerns to the present minister, I have always had a full and complete hearing. Maybe we did not get everything we wanted, but we got a receptive ear.

**Mr. Grande:** Are you going to support him for the leadership?

**Mr. Mancini:** No, I am not going to support him for the leadership. When the leadership convention happens, there will be a man from Chatham who can be referred to as the Treasurer of the past and he will be competing with the Treasurer of the future—

**Mr. Breagh:** I do not think this Treasurer has any future.

**Mr. Mancini:** I will say about the present minister there is no one who has worked any harder or who is any smarter in this time period leading up to the leadership convention—

**Mr. Mackenzie:** He could never handle Darcy.

**Mr. Mancini:** No, I do not think he can handle Darcy McKeough. I do not know what it is, but Darcy still has a lot of connections within the Conservative Party. I would love to have a general election against Darcy McKeough. We would have a lot of fun campaigning against the czar of Union Gas, the former Treasurer who wanted to increase Ontario health insurance plan rates 37 per cent and who was forced from his job.

**Mr. Breagh:** By his friends, twice.

**Mr. Mancini:** By his friends in the Conservative cabinet.

I am being somewhat distracted. I was talking about the greenhouse industry and how important it is to Mersea township. It is very important to the town of Leamington, which has been one of the fastest-growing areas in southeastern Essex county. Truly, it is a beautiful town. It has a dynamic business community, and there are a lot of fine shops. The shopping in Leamington, the number of shops and the quality of merchandising, is every bit as good as in Windsor. I had an opportunity to attend the chamber of commerce annual banquet only a few weeks ago. They are really working to promote Leamington, as are many of the other communities in my constituency.

As we move easterly through Mersea township, we come to the very beautiful village of Wheatley in Kent county. I remember during my first election when I started to visit Wheatley, although they did not support me electorally

then, I was always treated with tremendous courtesy and we got along well. However, since then, I point out to the Minister of Education, my plurality in Wheatley has been steadily going upwards.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** That is because of David, of course; it is not because of the candidate.

**Mr. Mancini:** The Minister of Education says it is not because of the candidate.

**Mr. Wildman:** Surely they are not voting for Liberal principles.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** No. They are voting on behalf of David; he is a delightful young man.

**Mr. Mancini:** The people of Wheatley are fine, intelligent people. Once I had an opportunity to explain to these fine folks what I wanted to do, and it sounded reasonable to them; they ultimately supported me. Over the past several years, being able to work with the municipal leaders, people in the fishing industry, etc., they have listened to some of the comments I have made, and they have increased in some measure the plurality I have been able to receive from Wheatley.

That is a quick overview of the constituency of Essex South. Recently, I received a report from the Ontario Electoral Boundaries Commission. They want to change the boundaries of the Essex county ridings, as they want to change the boundaries of other ridings across this province.

They suggested the village of Wheatley possibly should be in another constituency. I deeply regret that temporary decision by the commission. I will do whatever possible, and I will use whatever persuasive measures and powers I have to convince the commission that Wheatley has a community of interests with the town of Leamington and the township of Mersea and, therefore, should be left within the Essex South constituency.

Since we are talking about the nature of the county and the nature of Essex South, it is also no secret that for more than 100 years we have had a tradition of boundaries running east and west. Those boundaries are also respected in that way by the Essex county council on a yearly basis. They elect a county warden from the north, then from the south and then from the north again. This tradition has continued for more than 100 years.

I was deeply appalled when I heard that some members of the local Conservative organization and of the local socialist organization were going to go before the commission and suggest they



should disregard this more than 100-year-old tradition and, instead of having the boundaries run east and west, change them to run north and south.

I will gladly accept the decision of the commission, but I say to those people who wish to dismantle that tradition, to the socialists and the Conservatives, they will have to explain their position to the residents of Essex South in the coming election. They will have to explain to some of the municipalities why they are hesitant in representing them. That will be a lot of fun. I am going to have a lot of fun in the upcoming election.

**Mr. Breaugh:** He is threatening to become accountable to the people of Essex South. What a threat.

**Mr. Mancini:** I want to tell the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breaugh) that I still have that famous orange button. It says, "Mike was always my first choice."

**Mr. Breaugh:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: You cannot allow him to slander me like that.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Cousens):** I do not think it sounded like slander.

**Mr. Mancini:** After the resignation of Stephen Lewis, I sought out the member for Oshawa and obtained one of these very important and historic buttons. I still have it in my office today. When the member decides he should again contest the leadership, I will be prepared. I will already have my button and I will gladly wear it in the chamber and around Queen's Park to show my tremendous support and respect for the member for Oshawa.

**The Acting Speaker:** The member for Essex South is proving the point that we can talk about anything in the debate on the speech from the throne.

**Mr. Mancini:** It is unfortunate the member for Oshawa came third and last during that convention, but I think he can do better in future.

I am pleased the Minister of Agriculture and Food was here today to hear some of the comments I made about the greenhouse industry. I hope he takes some of those comments to heart.

12:10 p.m.

**Mr. Grande:** Are you going to support him for the leadership?

**Mr. Mancini:** No, I am not going to support him for the leadership, unfortunately.

Interjections.

**Mr. Mancini:** No, I cannot. I have to show my fidelity to the member for Oshawa. I am with him, and that is it.

In closing, I just want to say that if there are people in the assembly who are hunting enthusiasts and who would like to visit Pelee Island, which is also in my constituency, about several kilometres from the shore, the municipal corporation has a pheasant farm and it has a pheasant hunt every year. I know the municipal council and I would be more than pleased to have any number of members visit Pelee Island during the hunting season. We will arrange for hunting passes for these honourable members and we will accompany them if there are members who do have an affinity for this sport. They will have an opportunity to see a unique part of Essex South riding, Pelee Island. We will go over on the boat because, as we do, I will want to make a case for a new and bigger boat for Pelee Island and maybe for some other services we need.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, and the honourable members for their kindness in staying so long to listen to me. I would like to return the favour to them.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, before I make my few remarks on the throne speech, I would like to use this occasion to pass on my own congratulations to one Lynn Williams, who is the new international president of the United Steelworkers of America.

I would comment that, while we have not finalized all the votes, it appears to be probably the biggest vote in Canadian history. With more than 100 locals still to report, including the one at Inco, which was running better than four to one in his favour, the last figures I had were 59,257 for Williams and 4,316 for his opponent, for a more than 93 per cent vote in Canada. I have reason to believe it may even increase.

I am pleased because, although one has to be a little cautious with the figures since we do not have all the west coast figures in yet, it would appear that even in the United States Lynn probably will have a clear majority, which of course is one thing we would really enjoy. So I would like to pass on my congratulations to him as the first Canadian to become the president of a major, powerful union in North America.

I have a number of things I want to cover with respect to the throne speech. I still have difficulty after eight years in the House, and I will admit it frankly, in understanding what the priorities are and what really to look at. I am never sure the throne speech means a heck of a lot. I suspect one will learn more or get more direction as to just



what this government really plans to do by taking a good look at the budget when it comes in a few weeks down the road.

But if the throne speech is supposed to be an outline of and the direction of government policy, then the kindest thing I can say about it is that it is sadly lacking. I find it appalling in the kind of economic times we have to find an almost total reliance on words, aims and goals and a belief that we are seeing some kind of effective recovery; that is about all you get in the speech. It is just empty as far as any real action is concerned.

It is remarkable for the number of issues it manages to say very little about. There is not a word about new housing programs, and we are dealing with a major crisis in low-income housing in the province there. There is not a word about poverty. There is not a word about the loopholes in the safety and health legislation in this province. It does nothing about some of the labour problems; it seems to be easy to kick workers in the teeth these days in our province, but there is nothing about the problems of some of the activities on picket lines and some of the strikebreaking activities that have been raised and verified in this House. It does very little, in one new projected program, for the 176,000 unemployed young people.

The few things that are said in here are little better than regurgitated pap. In some cases, we have seen it two or three times in the last two or three throne speeches. Maybe we should go right to a budget and do away with it, because it does not give us much hope.

I want to deal with a number of issues. I want to deal with some of the great words in the throne speech. There is a lot in it about new methods of co-operation, working together, creating a new atmosphere in the labour relations field and gaining the trust of working people in the province.

At the same time as we are saying those kinds of things, with nothing more concrete than that in the throne speech, we have situations such as the one we raised in this House yesterday about a group of workers—young ones, for once—at Marshall Industries Ltd. in the city of Toronto who had one heck of a fight to get a union. They got it one year ago. There were 110 employees at the time.

When they organized, they signed almost unanimously; so there was no question about the desire for some form of organized representation of those workers. Many of them are fairly new to Ontario. A lot of Newfoundlanders and east

coasters are in the plant as well as a number of West Indians. About 30 per cent of the work force in the plant is women.

It is not a super-high-paying plant. It has a good line, though. It is not a company that is in any trouble. It happens to make the carts one finds in the supermarkets, the racks for dishwashers, lawn furniture and the masks used by hockey players in Ontario. But the company has never been happy with the union finally moving in, because it had resisted it for a good many years with a company association in that plant.

The second contract has proved to be very difficult. As a matter of fact, the main problem in the negotiations for the second contract is that the company wants a two-tier wage structure. That may not mean a lot to some of the Tory members, but it is something the United Auto Workers and most other unions are fighting to reject. It would mean salaries of \$1 to \$2 an hour less for up to two or three years in some cases. People would be doing the same job but, because they were new employees, in some cases they would be working at a considerably reduced salary than employees who would be working side by side with them.

It is a dangerous, thin edge of the wedge, if you like, in terms of a real lowering of workers' wages in Ontario. That is the main issue and the company has taken a strike on it. They are forced to strike on it. I would stay out until hell freezes over before I would accept that kind of cutback, from my own experience.

What has happened? The strike was not a week old when we had the company hiring one of the professional strikebreaking firms in this province. It hired a private investigative service, in this case Max Security, and we have them doing what? We see provocation at the picket line, such as we saw—and some of it was proved in court, as members know—at the Indalex and Automotive Hardware Ltd. strikes and some of the other nasty strikes we have had recently in Ontario.

We find walkie-talkies and cameras and the security people right in with the workers. We also find an armoured van. Some members may have seen it on the TV news the other night. It really is a bus that has been souped up, plated and heavily wired. They use it to bring in the strikebreakers who are being recruited by another firm that has some connections and is in the same security field.

If we take a look at the owner of this particular company, we find he is Peter Downing. He is well known, along with his brother, Paul Downing, who is supposed to be out of business,



but is not, as a result of some of the Securicor Investigation and Security Ltd. decisions.

We find them provoking the workers on the line. The tensions are high, and people cannot deny that. The key people, such as one of the young women who is on the executive of the local, and one of the key people who was responsible for organizing it, a very decent young lady at that, were being dragged away and arrested by the police from 23 division as a result of the friction that developed.

When one starts to look at it, one finds that the armoured van, which was hired in Sarnia of all places, was the same one used in the packaging strike involving a local in Ajax that was organized by the teamsters union. That strike got very nasty. Fortunately, that contract has now been settled.

**12:20 p.m.**

When we get through laying out all the information we have already picked up it is going to shock a few people. The kind of tactics, the dead licence plates used on some of the vehicles crossing the line, or junkyard plates, the things that are going on are part and parcel of a pattern in strikebreaking activities that this party has been raising with this government for years. We are not getting any action on it.

When we tie this in to Securicor, which was found guilty of many of the activities we talk about and which was to have its licence lifted back in June—we are getting close to one year now—we find the hearing has not even been held yet. Some members will recall not only have we been after it since last June, but on October 18 I asked a question of the Solicitor General (Mr. G. W. Taylor) in this House about the long delays. It might be worth repeating the question, asked back in October, five months ago, months after the licence of this company should have been lifted.

“Mr. Mackenzie: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General. It is our information that the principals of Securicor are now operating under the guise of another firm, namely, Brown Security. Is the minister aware of this matter?”

“Hon. G. W. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, no, I am not aware of it, but if the member wants to give me more information, I will inquire into it and get back to him as to my awareness of the matter.”

“Mr. Mackenzie: Inasmuch as the ministry did not go after the principals back on June 28, but only went after the licence of Securicor, and with some four months having gone by without the hearings having been yet held, what assurance do

we have that the company is not now an empty shell with the business and contracts transferred to another firm?”

As far as I am concerned, that is now totally the case. In the case of Brown Security, when one phones one finds Mr. Paul Downing, who is responsible for a lot of these activities, is listed as an inactive vice-president, whatever that means, but one gets the rest of the family and the contacts we found in every nasty strike situation in Ontario spread out through half a dozen companies, most of which we have named in this House.

“Hon. G. W. Taylor: I cannot give the honourable member any guarantees on what is taking place. There is a licensing and regulatory process. If the individuals have gone through that and there is a prosecution against a particular company in a forthcoming hearing, the determination will be made by the hearing board.

“I cannot inform the member as to whether the new company is operating or whether there will be, as he might have suggested, a shell of a corporation left there. However, the hearing will proceed and a determination will be made by that board.”

This is also the company that owes a pile of money as a result of having been found guilty of some of the activities on picket lines. I do not think we are ever going to see the money. The government has known from day one what is going on here because we have clearly laid it out, and the same thing is happening again today. It happened just a few weeks ago in the packaging plant situation.

This government had better start making it clear to people before they get the wrong impression. The Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) says time and again they are really concerned. Sometimes he even says he agrees, as he did recently on the trouble in Marshall Industries, it is appalling and it should not be happening. When is the government going to do something about it? When are we going to see some action to stop these goons from doing more to cause trouble than the workers themselves will, no matter how agitated they get in a situation such as this.

When will some of the straight economics of it come through? We all know the figures we put on the floor in the Canada Cement strike months earlier. Almost \$700,000 was paid to this same Securicor outfit. They were not worth a quarter of what they did in that strike situation, and that would have paid for the difference in what the contract dispute was all about.



If a poor little investor, probably because he has a bee in his bonnet about getting rid of the union or something, stays more than a couple of weeks with these people and their activities, it is going to cost him a heck of a lot more than a new contract is going to cost. Are those kind of activities how we are promoting free enterprise in business in Ontario? It is a pretty poor way and not a very effective way of providing employment for people, if they have to be involved in these kind of activities in a situation such as this.

Having been involved so long in the life in these activities myself, I suppose I may get a little emotional or tend to overreact to some of this, but I do not know how anybody can argue with the facts as laid out, the facts as proved and the facts as verified when these companies or security firms are found guilty before the Ontario Labour Relations Board.

How long are we going to let continue activities that, if not illegal, are so immoral and so on the borderline it is not even funny? Is that what the government means when it says in the throne speech it is going to encourage more co-operation and more discussion with workers in Ontario?

What about a case my colleague the member for Algoma (Mr. Wildman) will be raising and which we have already raised in this House? That is the case of workers involved in safety and health matters. I am talking about the Inglis plant in Stoney Creek, just outside my own riding in Hamilton.

We have a situation there that is a really serious crisis. When we started just a few short months ago they argued there were no more than four or five workers. Even the ministry is now admitting there are between 10 and 15 workers who are contaminated with—"sensitized" is the word—isocyanates.

Four of them are now on Workers' Compensation Board pensions and it is obvious the company does not want them back in the plant. The reason is obvious. A thimblefull of the material anywhere in that huge plant, and the Stoney Creek plant is huge, will start causing reactions in the two most seriously sensitized people in that group.

As a matter of fact, one of the workers had a very serious attack and had to be taken to hospital recently because he came in contact in a local supermarket with some of the chemical that is sometimes used in floor polish or polyurethane polish.

All the people involved, the four who are currently on pension and the other 10 or 11 they

now admit are sensitized to some degree to the isocyanates in that plant, are relatively young workers. I point out to the members of this House that once one is sensitized it is irreversible. In its worst form it crystalizes the lungs. What is happening in these cases is they are susceptible to an asthma-like attack with any exposure whatsoever to the chemicals.

We have been fighting and we have been involved in it. Some of my letters to the Minister of Labour are in here. But mostly the union has been involved for months trying to resolve the situation in that plant.

What are some of the early things that were done? They put a great, big, blue line—the workers call it a walkway—down the centre of the plant. After a period of time, anybody who was sensitized or who had been working with the foam that is injected into refrigerator panels was not to work on the wrong side of that line. They were to work on the other side of it.

It is so ridiculous it is not even funny. We have only six toxic substances in Ontario for which we finally have standards set because they are considered so dangerous. There are about 30 more that should be in place but are not. Some of them were promised in the Ministry of Labour estimates I was involved in six or seven years ago. Isocyanates are one of them, recognized as a really dangerous substance for workers.

One of the problems we are having in that plant and with the ministry is to try to establish the lowest practical threshold level of exposure. I do not think there is a lowest practical level, quite frankly. I can tell the members there are other companies that use the material and in every case I know of where it is used it is totally enclosed. That has been one of the arguments of the workers at this plant. It has been one of the arguments with the Ministry of Labour as well. They have not been able to achieve that.

The union has made it clear to the Minister of Labour and to the safety and health people that they are totally unsatisfied with the government's outline of what can and cannot be done in dealing with the isocyanates problem in this plant.

In a ministry document, an interpretation is placed on the phrase, "the lowest practical level." It says, "Every employer shall take all necessary measures and procedures by means of engineering controls, work practices, and hygiene practices and facilities to ensure that the time-weighted average exposure of a worker to isocyanates is reduced to the lowest practical level and, in any case, shall not exceed 0.005 parts isocyanates per million parts of air."



12:30 p.m.

They call upon "the measures and procedures necessary to control the exposure of a worker to the airborne isocyanates to be handled." In this case they do not exist or are not available.

Perhaps I can switch a bit just to give members the problems we are having in some of the arguments. This has come down to some very severe pressure and an attempt to transfer these four workers on Workers' Compensation Board benefits to the Toronto plant of Inglis, where the company claims there are no isocyanates in use.

I went down the day they were to report, and those workers exercised under section 70 a refusal to go into that plant because they had no guarantee there were no isocyanates in that plant. We found out the company had transferred them because after being transferred they would be the lowest people on the seniority list; the next Monday there was to be a layoff of 27 workers in that plant and it would mean they would be gone. They would then have to look at establishing a WCB pension for the rest of their lives, and the company would neatly get out from under the responsibility it has of carrying these workers—not carrying them so much as trying to establish conditions in the work place such that they could go back to work; and it is possible.

One of the points the ministry's own people came up with in the arguments that have gone on, B in a series of recommendations on what can be done and what cannot be done, is, "It is unreasonable to expect the employer to provide an enclosure with negative pressure around the foaming equipment."

As damaging as we know this is, and in spite of the fact it is done in other plants—it is obviously a cost factor, although we have not been able to get a figure any higher than about \$200,000 or \$300,000 to carry this out totally—this is one of the reasons the government gives for not proceeding with the enclosure.

Yet when the committee, the union and some of the workers who have been sensitized—who, I can tell members, are getting pretty cheesed off in that plant, especially now that there are up to 11 or 12 that we know of, and we think there are 17 at this point—asked the ministry to give them a reason why it is unreasonable to request that the company do this, when they asked the ministry if it had asked the company for hard figures on what it is going to cost them, the ministry inspectors refused to answer; they refused to deal with it.

This is one of the reasons it was presented at great length to our task force the other night, why it has gone to the minister—so they are not

unaware of it—and why I am raising it here today. There have to be some answers and some actions in cases where we have put workers at risk for the rest of their lives, as we have done in this plant.

We are getting those kinds of answers within the last week or two. I ask again, is that part of this new co-operation and discussion with workers, with the people in the province, a new way of breaking down some of the barriers, getting away from some of the confrontation? How does the government expect to sell it to opposition members? Obviously they do not really care; they have a majority. But that attitude is going to get them into some serious trouble down the road.

We have the continuation. It is almost weekly. We have not raised this in the House yet, but last week the workers got the announcement of the closure in St. Catharines of the Hart and Cooley Manufacturing Co. of Canada Ltd. plant. True, it was down from 105 to about 37 employees, but they were all working; others were on recall.

There have been about three corporate takeovers in this case. It is a subsidiary of Tuttle and Bailey, which in turn is a subsidiary of the Interpace Corp. Interpace was taken over not very long ago by Clevepak.

One of my colleagues made the point the other day that it is facetious to argue that increased benefits for the private sector are going to result in new investment, because while we have seen increased profits in the last year we have not seen that increased investment; indeed, a good deal of the earnings in this country are going into those kinds of corporate cannibalism or takeovers. What do they produce in the way of jobs? Precious little.

Here we have 37 employees, plus those who are on recall—and the company is very kind; they have a plant in Oakville and they say they might offer up to 15 of them a transfer; might, I stress, and subject to their work record and their qualifications. So it does not matter how long they have been there, what they have done, what they have got, how much of their lives they have put into working for this particular plant, you can bet your bottom dollar, Mr. Speaker, they will be lucky if half a dozen of those 15 they offer jobs to will get them.

We can also be darned sure the worker who may get the transfer to the Oakville plant will be the worker who is squeaky clean and smells like a rose. If he has one bad mark on his record, if he has ever had a Workers' Compensation Board claim or if he has a back injury, we can bet our bottom dollar that he will not be among the very



few the company says, to begin with, it is willing to take a look at transferring to its Oakville plant.

They are now in the process of trying to work out something a little better in this case, but they are not getting very far. That has been going on this past week. Is that also what we mean when we talk about better co-operation, less confrontation and more working out of our problems with the work force in Ontario? If it is, it is a pretty sad commentary.

Incidentally, I am going to deal with what has happened to the workers at Consolidated-Bathurst since the closure of its plant almost a year ago now.

I am going to jump ahead for one reference, because it deals with what we are talking about here. It is not new. Two or three times in this House, I have raised the comments we got when we were sitting in the office of the Minister of Labour with the president of Consolidated-Bathurst and the president of his packaging division, his comments about why he would not consider an employee buyout of that plant, whether or not it could have been a viable operation, and his reason.

I will pass this around this province as long as I am in politics, I can guarantee members, because it underlines the problem we are facing with some parts of the private sector. His comment was, "No, we won't consider a worker take-over." His analogy was: "Imperial Oil wouldn't sell a choice corner lot to Texaco. Why should we put up with the competition?"

When we asked him about making a recommendation to transfer some of these workers, all of whom had more than 20 years' seniority, to the company they were selling the plant to—which we did not even know about at the time of the meeting—Reid Dominion next door, he said would not recommend the employees because he did not intend to recommend to anybody else who they should hire. That comment provoked the Provincial Secretary for Justice (Mr. Walker) to say the strongest thing he could say, that they were not the best corporate citizen.

There were some very skilled people in that plant. They are in the process now of transferring some of their workers from the London plant to the Rexdale plant in Toronto. The consolidation of that operation is continuing. I checked and found that because the workers kicked up a squawk, because they tried to purchase the plant, because they went before the Ontario Labour Relations Board, as members all know, and successfully charged the company with bargaining in bad faith, one employee did get a transfer.

He is probably one of the top mechanics in Ontario, an extremely skilled individual who is of real value to the company; they could not get an immediate replacement. Out of 200 workers in the hourly rated force, he is the only one transferred. Fifteen or 18 of the office personnel were transferred; they were not organized.

Is that kind of treatment of workers what we mean when we say we are going to do more talking? Talking about what, in terms of trying to make things a little better for working people in the province?

I said in my opening remarks there is nothing in here that deals with the question of poverty. I was appalled to see a comment—I do not know whether it is accurate; it was reported in the press two or three weeks ago—from the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea) that there were no soup kitchens in Ontario.

His comment was one of the reasons we headed immediately to one of two or three soup kitchens in the city of Hamilton. We headed to the Wesley Centre and talked to some of the people who were lined up at the soup kitchen. I partook of the soup. So the government does not think I was taking something away from it, I paid \$10 for that little cup of soup and a single piece of bread. I sat down at the table with those people.

#### 12:40 p.m.

In the last three weekends, that one centre alone has had more than 200 people coming in for each serving. That is up substantially over the last few weeks. Maybe I should give the minister some idea of the figures from the Wesley Centre. The average daily attendance went from 123 in January 1983 to 136 in January 1984. That was not too bad, but it was a 10.5 per cent increase.

In February the figure went from 114 to 135; in March, from 116 to 135; and on March 27, from 115 to 144. The overall increase this year over last is about 26 per cent, and we had some rough times last year. In the last two or three weeks the figure has been as many as 200 people, a surprising number of them young and quite a few of them women. The director of the centre tells us one of the things he is concerned about is the increasing number of young people and women coming in.

I really wish we could have taken the Minister of Community and Social Services down there because we asked some of them sitting at the table if it was really necessary for them to be there and whether this had just happened. We knew it had not, but the minister does not think there are any soup kitchens operating in Ontario. Throughout the room we could hear them saying,



"Bring him down." Maybe he should go down, as we did, and sit in with some of them to get his facts straight for once.

I do not think there is a major community in our province that is not seeing an increase in the number of people in this kind of need. Here and at a couple of other centres in Hamilton, we found that principals and ministers directed some of the kids there because they were concerned about the adequacy of their diets.

I do not think we are ready to go down the deep hole as yet, but we have a serious and increasing problem. What is in this throne speech this government brought in with all the hoopla to deal with it? Can any one tell me? There is not a damned thing in there that deals with this problem.

The welfare case load is increasing everywhere. I attended an annual meeting of the Catholic children's aid society last night. They were trying to be very kind to the government. I have their report back in my office. On at least three different occasions, in the acting director's report, too, it indicated its difficulty in dealing with the problems and the increased number of problems it was having because of the difficulties of funding.

I look at what is happening in my own city in terms of the welfare case load. My colleague the member for Scarborough West (Mr. R. F. Johnston) points out that this applies in almost every community across the province of Ontario and it has not changed a lot. We have the core welfare case load, but what we see increasing dramatically is the number of employable people who are now on welfare.

I am jumping ahead again, but we have a large number of International Harvester employees who have just had to go the welfare route in recent months. We have about 100 workers from Consolidated-Bathurst who will soon be out of benefits. I will go into a little detail because I had a pretty good survey done over the last few days with the people in the centre they have set up in Kenilworth, who will be out of all benefits in that one operation. We are looking at another 100 people, except that most of them will not go on welfare right away. Because the pension plan was not the best in that company, a lot of them did invest in registered retirement savings plans or had some savings.

Before these workers, who at 55 years of age have not got work and are not likely to find another job, reach the stage where they qualify for any welfare assistance, they have to use up the savings that were intended for their retire-

ment, their pension. What in God's name are we doing to people who did have the foresight, who thought they would be there for the rest of their lives and did save some money or invested some money? Because of the employment situation, they are going to have to use that up before they then qualify for welfare, once they have used up their unemployment insurance benefits.

I do not have the more recent figures, but in the last month Hamilton-Wentworth showed an increase in the employable welfare cases of from 3,200 to 3,999 over the previous year. That is the kind of level that is going to jump. Not our members or supporters as far as I know, but some of the people involved right up at the top in the welfare offices are predicting we will see an increase in Hamilton in those numbers of employable welfare recipients.

It is happening across the province and we are not resolving the problem. I do not know how many members of this House deal with a lot of constituents. I think any member who is conscientious does. I suspect in a good many ridings, if not all, they are getting a lot of problems with housing. If not, they are all coming to us, and I do not think that is the case. We have a serious housing problem for those least able to afford it.

We have an increase once again in the city of Hamilton in the waiting list just out yesterday, I believe. The numbers have increased in each of the last few months. The previous month the number of families on the Hamilton-Wentworth Housing Authority list was 702. New applications were 172, cancellations, 88, and house turnover, 29. That is an increase of 55 in families, an increase of nine in the singles, an increase of 11 in the disabled, and we are up to 757, 59 and 96 respectively. Those are the figures as of yesterday.

I could go into the previous month, but I will not. It showed a jump too. It started at 700 and went up to 702, 50 and 85. The jump in the waiting list in one month is substantial. What is the province doing about this kind of housing allotment? It has something like 900 units that are being spread around the province to the various communities.

We have a situation of less than one per cent, 0.8, vacancy rate in our town. We have an absolutely urgent and desperate need for affordable low-income housing, and it is not happening. It is not in the throne speech. We may hope it is in the budget speech, but it is not in the throne speech. We make the arguments that something has to be done.



In my town I finally supported—not finally, I probably would have done to begin with, but I had not given it high priority—the setting up of a municipal nonprofit housing corporation as a means of mobilizing some action to deal with this problem. One of the things that was very annoying at a meeting I attended before a committee of city council just two nights ago was to have the local house builders association get up and attack everything from rent controls to any kind, including nonprofit agencies, of public housing.

They used some figures that were outlandish and untrue in terms of how much more it would cost. They told us it cost them 60 per cent more to put up low-income nonprofit housing. When they were challenged on that, as they were at the meeting, they came back with some arguments, most of which did not make sense. They obviously did not carry anybody, including one or two of the Tories on the committee, although they did get two votes in the final vote. It was a ridiculous argument and it was total anti. There was nothing positive in it about housing needs for people.

What disturbed me even more was we had before that committee some of the groups I have worked very closely with and hope to continue to work with in the future. However, because they are so caught in the rules as now set, the establishment, if you like, in housing in Ontario—and I am talking about Victoria Park and about the East Kiwanis—they were there to make presentations against setting up such a municipal nonprofit housing corporation.

I want to tell members what their argument was. The total core of their argument was that it would not work, it would not be helpful and it would make it harder for them. They were trying to respond to the problem, and it would mean the very small piece of pie they are getting from the federal and provincial authorities would have to be split even further and, therefore, it would not be economically viable for their operation. Their operation essentially provides about one in four units out of what they take on, and I give them full credit for the work they have done in terms of this desperate need for low-income housing.

**12:50 p.m.**

As I tried to point out to them when I had my chance to speak to the meeting, with all their efforts and giving them all the credit in the world, the problem is getting worse. Nobody is tackling the real issue; that is the size of the allotment. If we could get that, or if that could be the fight instead of setting up a municipal nonprofit

corporation, maybe we would support it. That is the reaction of the community nonprofit groups.

I might, too, although I am inclined to think that if we do not have the leverage of a municipal corporation, we are going to be in some trouble. I might, too, but I have not seen any of them launch that kind of public campaign or effort. The bottom line is that in spite of all their good work, the problem is getting worse; it is not getting better. We are not dealing with it.

There is nothing in this throne speech that deals with that problem. Is it not serious? Has the decision been made, “Okay, so there is a waiting list of a few tens of thousands in Ontario”? The records also show that a heck of a lot of the poorest or most disadvantaged people are not likely to vote. I know it. The poorest areas in my riding have amongst the lowest turnouts.

Is there a feeling that because they do not have the clout, are not organized and are not a threat, we do not have to be concerned with what is a serious problem? I would like an honest answer from somebody across the floor of this House about that problem. Do they not see it as a problem? They obviously do not in the throne speech. Do they think it will go away or have they something up their sleeves for the budget? It is a legitimate question.

I do not have with me the brief on housing from the committee of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District that was presented at that meeting. It was one of the most effective and best-prepared briefs I have heard in a long time. It was probably one of the reasons a very uncertain committee finally voted five to two in favour of setting up the nonprofit housing authority when the meeting ended.

I had a bet from one of the key people in one of the private nonprofit housing authorities that we were not going to win the vote, that the result would be to vote down the setting up of the corporation. But the problems were made evident by the various groups that made presentations, and the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District brief underlined the problem very adequately. We ended up with a five to two vote on that committee.

I do not know what will happen at city council in Hamilton. It will be nip and tuck whether the thing gets through. That may be because we are dealing with a bunch of Tories. The only two votes against it in the committee were by two well-known Tories in Hamilton. That is why I have to question the members. Do they not see it as a problem? Are they not going to react to this or do they feel they do not have to react to it?



A couple of other points were made in the presentation. Hamilton, unlike other communities, has no emergency housing available for families. While there is some in some communities, we find all too often this is also a problem. After a fire or eviction—eviction because they cannot pay the rent is included in that—housing is there for women and children, but with a separate place for men. The family is split up at the most inopportune time. The example they cited, which I think is a good one, is the Family and Veterans Residence in Toronto. It is a successfully operated, short-term housing shelter. It is one thing we desperately need in Hamilton.

The provision of housing is not the only part of the solution we have to deal with. In the provision of housing for low-income people, we have to take a serious look at adequate play areas, equipment and the need for support services. Too often these things are not really looked into.

In this brief, while they did not agree with their opposition to what was being done, there were some nice comments which I could echo about the work being done by the Kiwanis, St. Matthew's House and Victoria Park. But it was clearly outlined that the problem was not being dealt with, that the need was growing and that there has to be a new initiative in housing.

I could go into some of the examples, but I will not bother because there are too many other things I want to deal with. If I can finish in the few minutes I have left and leave off on that point, I want to deal with Consolidated-Bathurst. I think Consolidated-Bathurst underlines as effectively as anything the failure, in spite of all the high-faluting talk of this government, to deal with the problem of older workers and laid-off workers.

There were 207 workers for which the committee was responsible when it was set up. We got a little funding, which was appreciated, to set up that centre on Kenilworth Avenue. The funding came 50 per cent from the federal authorities, 10 per cent from the provincial authorities and 40 per cent from the company. It was part of the agreement that was finally worked out. The company was found guilty of bargaining in bad faith before the Ontario Labour Relations Board.

That program employed three darn good people, one of them being Rudy Oliverio, the ex-president of the local, to try to work with and help their people get established by retraining or new jobs.

Of those 207 people, 81 have found full-time work. Of the 81 who have found full-time work,

90 per cent are working for substantially less money than they made before. The rate was \$11 to \$12 an hour in that plant; so even where we have some success, we are really undercutting the wages of workers in this province.

Two of them are working part-time, while 28 are attending school, largely for upgrading. I talked to many of them and they do not like it. They are in their 50s and are finding it difficult. We have not had a pattern, which is one of the things we will have to do in our society, of allowing paid retraining leave and credits to the work force. Like a professor who can have a sabbatical every so many years, perhaps workers should have a year of training every four or five years in this province as part of the way to enable them to cope with the necessity of frequent retraining as our work force and society change.

Almost a year later, 106 are unemployed. Three of them, the shortest-term people, are now on welfare. They are down and despondent. They are still desperately looking for work and are not finding it. As I said earlier when I jumped ahead, they are using their savings, which were meant for their retirement years, because the pension plan in that plant was not the best. That was their pension, which they now have to use to survive until they are down to the level where they can qualify for welfare.

Almost a year later, 106 are not working and 28 are mostly on upgrading so they can qualify for a specialized course. There has been very little success in terms of specialized courses. In many cases it is the only way they can stay on unemployment insurance as well. That is really devastating for a 50- or 55-year-old worker who has put 25 years of his life into a plant.

Quite frankly, they are driving their families crazy. I have talked to a number of their wives as well. We are beginning to see a questioning of their own worth. I recall the summary my colleague the member for Scarborough West did of the SKF workers. The pattern is beginning to repeat itself here.

Let me finish with this because I see the time is up. Of the 81 who have found employment, 17 of them are at Camco Inc., one of the few plants in Hamilton that has been hiring. At Camco we are facing a layoff of probably 150 to 200 people. Throughout the plant, the word is that within a matter of weeks they will be laying off.

That will take care of every one of those 17 Consolidated-Bathurst workers. We have already had a layoff of some workers. Seven went to CIP in Burlington. There has been a layoff of four of them. Really, not even 81 are working

because some of those who found full-time work have now been laid off in other operations.

Where is the government dealing with that problem in this throne speech? We can go to a lot of other plants to start outlining just exactly what

is happening.

On motion by Mr. Mackenzie, the debate was adjourned.

The House adjourned at 1 p.m.

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No. 10

# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Monday, April 2, 1984

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Monday, April 2, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### WATER QUALITY

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce today two initiatives that are important steps in my ministry's efforts to maintain the high quality of drinking water in Ontario. One involves a new public interest component that will play a significant role in dealing with key water quality issues. The second is a significant step forward in our scientific research program.

Since my appointment last July I have been meeting, talking with and listening to people who are active in Ontario's environmental public interest groups. Throughout this dialogue I have been extremely impressed not only by their sincerity and dedication but also by their expertise and capability.

The people I have dealt with from groups such as Pollution Probe, Operation Clean Niagara and the Canadian Environmental Law Association are rendering a valuable service to the people of Ontario in their efforts to protect water quality in the Niagara River, Lake Ontario and elsewhere in the Great Lakes. I believe the Ontario environment will benefit from a closer working relationship between the special interest groups and my ministry. Accordingly, I plan to invite officials of these organizations to nominate representatives to serve with staff of my ministry on a new public interest committee on drinking water quality.

The resources available from public interest groups are as valuable in their own way as the considerable research expertise we obtain from private companies and the academic community. Working together, I believe these groups and ministry staff can do a better job of providing the public with clearly defined and accurate information on Ontario's drinking water quality and water quality protection programs.

The research initiative I mentioned earlier involves the awarding of a \$1-million contract over a three-year period to MacLaren Plansearch Inc. to operate the Niagara Falls pilot-scale water

treatment plant as a comprehensive facility to test activated carbon filters and other treatment methods. For the duration of the three-year study program, water from this pilot plant will be used for analysis and research.

This contract is being awarded after an intensive review of proposals submitted by six companies. A scientific steering committee of federal, provincial and American environmental and health experts was assembled to review the proposals.

Our aim in the study is to identify the most cost-efficient and effective treatment technology, should it be necessary to enhance the treatment systems now in use throughout Ontario. I emphasize that the methods currently used by my ministry and our municipalities already provide a very high level of protection for the quality of Ontario's drinking water.

This research project has three components: first, the evaluation of conventional treatment in removing contaminants; second, the development of improved analytical techniques for detecting trace organic contaminants; and, third, the evaluation of the activated carbon filtration and other treatment processes in removing these contaminants.

Results from the program will be evaluated by a committee comprising staff from the Ministry of the Environment and the federal Department of National Health and Welfare, as well as a panel of internationally recognized water experts.

I will continue to draw on the best expertise and advice available from all quarters—from the private sector, from government, from the scientific community and from our public interest groups—to ensure the highest possible level of protection necessary to maintain the high quality of drinking water in Ontario.

## YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** Mr. Speaker, I rise today on a matter I know is of interest and concern to many members of this House. This is the implementation of the Young Offenders Act.

As honourable members know, the Young Offenders Act is the new federal legislation which deals with young persons aged 12 to 17 who commit offences against federal statutes.



The new act is intended to hold young persons more accountable for their behaviour, while recognizing they have special needs as persons not fully mature. The act was passed in the House of Commons in July 1982 and is being proclaimed today.

The Young Offenders Act, which will apply throughout Canada, has been the subject of long and protracted discussions between the provinces and territories on the one hand and the government of Canada on the other. These discussions have dealt with both the substance of the act and the need for adequate cost sharing to meet the significant additional costs the act imposes on each province.

Despite persistent efforts to try to achieve an equitable cost-sharing agreement, Ontario today finds itself with a responsibility to implement and administer the act without such an agreement in place. I might add it is my understanding that only one province has signed a cost-sharing agreement with the federal government. This is the case, despite the fact that since 1976 and earlier we have repeatedly stated that a reasonable level of cost sharing would have to be provided by the federal government if the provinces were to be able to meet the expectations the legislation has created.

The very real and serious concerns of the provinces and territories have been consistently communicated to the government of Canada. In September 1983 the Premier (Mr. Davis), as chairman of the Premiers' annual conference, wrote to Prime Minister Trudeau to convey the unanimous view of the provinces that a satisfactory cost-sharing agreement should be concluded before proclamation of the Young Offenders Act.

In replying to the Premier, Mr. Trudeau said, "I am confident a satisfactory agreement can be reached prior to proclamation, thus facilitating the timely implementation of the Young Offenders Act in a manner consistent with our respective constitutional responsibilities in this area."

The provinces and territories were again unanimous in the view that the federal cost-sharing proposal was substantially inadequate when the matter was discussed at a meeting of federal-provincial ministers in Montreal in late February 1984. It must be recognized that the Young Offenders Act imposes substantial new costs on every province's justice system at a time when we are all facing both severe constraints and many other demands for increased services.

It is estimated, for instance, that under the Young Offenders Act operating costs for this part

of the justice system here in Ontario could increase to \$163 million a year. Under that proposal the federal contribution would cover only about one third of those costs. The capital cost of providing additional court and custodial facilities is estimated to be about \$65 million. The federal cost-sharing offer provides no direct funds for capital costs.

**2:10 p.m.**

Ontario is most concerned that an inadequate cost-sharing agreement will undermine the very reforms the Young Offenders Act is supposed to produce. We will continue, therefore, to try to reach a more satisfactory funding agreement.

Notwithstanding its concern to ensure adequate sharing of the costs imposed on the province by this legislation, Ontario has long supported the intent and philosophy of the act. We are, therefore, moving immediately to take all necessary steps to comply with the requirements of the act. These actions, of course, must be taken in a series of stages.

Steps have already been taken to deal with those sections of the Young Offenders Act which come into force immediately in Ontario, namely, those pertaining to 12-to-15-year-olds. Other necessary measures will be taken later this year to ensure the effective implementation of the act for 16-and 17-year-olds as of April 1, 1985.

Legislation enacted last December to deal with provincial offences by young persons and to designate the youth courts is proclaimed in force today. Orders in council have been issued to enable designation of provincial directors, youth workers and places of detention and custody, as required by the Young Offenders Act. This will be followed by further legislation, which will be introduced in the House in the next few days. This legislation is largely of a housekeeping nature. For example, it will repeal existing statutes where they are made inoperative by the Young Offenders Act.

This additional legislation will also clarify the authority of the police to apprehend young persons under 12 who are engaged in behaviour which would constitute an offence if the young person were over 12 years of age. It will maintain current practice by providing for the police to return the child under 12 years of age to his or her parents wherever possible. If this cannot be accomplished in a reasonable period of time, it will provide for the police to take the child to a place designated according to the provisions of the Child Welfare Act.

Young offenders in Ontario will continue to be served by the ministries best able to meet their



needs at this time. This will mean that, while all young offenders will receive the same services, these services will be delivered by more than one ministry.

As noted earlier, the Young Offenders Act will require Ontario to raise its maximum age, effective April 1, 1985. This will mean that young offenders will range in age from 12 years to 17 years, inclusive. Honourable members will be aware that for several years now the services related to detention and custody of young persons aged 12 to 17 have been delivered by two ministries. The Ministry of Community and Social Services has provided these services to young persons aged 15 years and younger; the Ministry of Correctional Services has been responsible for these services to 16- and 17-year-olds.

It is our intention to continue to build on the strength and experience of both these ministries in implementing the Young Offenders Act. This administrative distribution of responsibility has served young offenders well, and it is not our intention to change it at this time. All necessary measures have been taken to ensure an integrated and consistent approach to the planning and delivery of all services for young offenders.

Honourable members will be pleased to know that staff members of the ministries of Correctional Services, Community and Social Services, the Solicitor General and the Attorney General have been working together for many months now to prepare for the implementation of the Young Offenders Act in this province.

A tremendous amount of work has already been done. In addition to the various measures outlined earlier in this statement, extensive training and orientation have been undertaken for all relevant personnel to ensure their ability to implement not only the letter of the new law but also the spirit of that law.

Having said this, we acknowledge that more needs to be done. Once the act has been in effect for a period of time, we will be in a position to assess our current systems and organizational agreements and to review potential alternatives.

In closing, I think we can all commend the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea) and the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Leluk) for their joint efforts to ensure an integrated and consistent approach to the correctional treatment of young persons under the Young Offenders Act.

Speaking on behalf of these honourable ministers and of the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) and the Solicitor General (Mr. G. W.

Taylor), I can assure members we are prepared to meet the challenges the Young Offenders Act presents and to see it enhance the very fine justice system this province already possesses.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

### JOB SECURITY

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. Page 5 of the throne speech stated: "The upturn of a severe business cycle will alleviate much of the hardship our people have experienced. Nevertheless, without responsible leadership and co-operative action, it cannot assure just and secure growth with decent opportunities for all our citizens."

I refer the Premier to the specific figures on industrial layoffs in this province. To refresh his memory, this year we have had permanent closures of 331 jobs in February, 380 in March and 411 in April, and it was announced in January that a further 434 jobs would be lost some time in the course of this year.

Now that he has been fully informed of the moves of Shell Canada, will the Premier bring this House up to date on what he is doing to provide responsible leadership and co-operative action to protect those jobs in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, there has been some communication with Shell. There will be more tomorrow. I am not at liberty to disclose the discussions at this moment.

**Mr. Peterson:** With respect to the ongoing question of loss of jobs in Ontario, would the Premier bring this House up to date on his discussions with Inco? The company is now suggesting it will cut 490 jobs from Port Colborne. What responsible leadership and co-operative action is he providing to maintain those jobs in Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) has been dealing directly with this matter of Inco, which does not fall within the category the Leader of the Opposition is referring to. I am sure the Minister of Labour would be delighted to inform the House of all the knowledge he has about it. I suggest the member ask him.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to meet the senior officials of Inco on this matter on Thursday last week. It is devastating news, but it has been brought about by the worldwide nickel situation and has nothing to do with the circumstances here. On the world market, Inco is producing its product at much higher cost than it is able to sell it for. It is a part



of continuing rationalization by Inco in an attempt to get the company back into a profitable situation.

We are having continuing meetings with Inco officials. There will be one tomorrow. We also plan to meet with representatives of the United Steelworkers to make sure everything possible that can be done will be done for the workers dislocated by this severance.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister can explain, if he was told on Thursday, why it was that when the president of the local in Port Colborne, Ray Moreau, went into the company, having heard rumours that something was going on, he was told on Thursday that absolutely nothing was in the works? It was not until Friday that the company completely reversed itself and told him about the layoffs. Can the minister explain why the union and the workers involved, the people who are being laid off, have been kept totally in the dark about what was happening?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, there is a logical and reasonable explanation for that. The company wanted the opportunity to speak to labour leaders, management personnel and workers all at one time. It wanted to be able to tell them the facts in an orderly fashion rather than make a premature announcement, which would have led to all sorts of speculation and other problems.

When Inco officials came to see me on Thursday, they asked that the information they gave me be of a confidential nature until they had that opportunity to communicate properly with their workers.

**2:20 p.m.**

**Mr. Haggerty:** Mr. Speaker, I also want to keep in line with the spirit of the throne speech. My question relates to the economic challenge of long-term employment.

I was rather shocked at the news the other day that 490 persons would be permanently unemployed at the Inco operations in Port Colborne. I had some discussions with the person who gave the release and he based his knowledge on the marketing of nickel.

I thank the minister for sending expert staff into that area, particularly as it relates to the pensions in question and the transfer of employees to other Inco operations in Manitoba and Ontario.

Why are we selling Inco nickel worldwide for American dollars? If we must remain competitive in the world market, why is nickel not sold at the value of the Canadian dollar? Then we can be competitive.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I do not like to disagree with the honourable member opposite, but I do not think that is the case at all. From the various briefings I have had on Inco, not only this past week but also over the past two years, it is my understanding that is not the case. I will be happy to get the information for the member. Whether it is in Canadian or US funds, Inco is still not competitive in the world market.

#### ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS AND DISABLED PERSONS

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Provincial Secretary for Social Development. He will be aware that the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) has finally promised to move with respect to the single elderly. Now, a single elderly person receives on the order of \$622 a month minimum in Ontario. That still leaves a glaring inequity in the social programs of this province.

I am referring specifically to someone who is on a disability pension under the Family Benefits Act. That single disabled person will receive \$382 a month. The provincial secretary will realize no one can live reasonably on that amount. As the provincial secretary responsible, when is he going to move on this glaring inequity?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member will know the record of this government is exemplary in extending social programs from year to year. I refer him to the recent steps taken regarding increases in allowances and pensions to various classes of people. I ask that he give the government an opportunity to bring forth the budget proposals so he will more clearly know our intentions for the future.

**Mr. Peterson:** The provincial secretary learned how to answer questions from the Deputy Premier (Mr. Welch). What is he telling us? Surely he must be aware of the fact that there is a glaring inequity, not only in terms of the amount of money but in terms of the procedures as well.

The provincial secretary is aware that someone qualifies at the age of 18 for a disability pension. If a person applies for the pension prior to the age of 18, they tell him to wait until he is 18. When he applies on his 18th birthday, it sometimes takes up to six months to get that disability pension because of bureaucratic red tape. Indeed, the Hamilton branch of the Ontario March of Dimes, with which the minister will be familiar, reports this often happens in the case of the psychologically disabled. There is no retroactivity in the payments.



Parsimonious as it is, why is the system so slow to respond to those people in need?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** To begin with, I thank the member for comparing me with the Deputy Premier, whose skill at answering—

**Mr. Peterson:** He has never accomplished a thing in his life.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** With respect, I do not think that is a fair or truthful comment on the competence of the Deputy Premier. Although the member's blandishments in flattering me by comparing me to the Deputy Premier are noted, I will not allow them to colour my answer to his question.

I think the member would have to agree that the best way the freedom and the actual exposition of the policies we believe in so well here can best be exemplified is by the quotation of a poem I am sure he is familiar with, which I will spare the member, to the effect that, "Freedom slowly broadens down."

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, that was quite a bizarre answer from the minister.

**Mr. Martel:** Could he give us another one of those?

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for Scarborough West has the floor.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, although the provincial secretary is new to his post, surely he understands that the handicapped people of this province are living in poverty, most of them below any poverty line we know. Eighty per cent of those who wish to work are unemployed at this point, and his government has not acted to assist them with the extra costs they have.

How does one deal with the fundamental inequity of the fact that a single older person is going to be old for the rest of his life and a handicapped person is going to be handicapped for the rest of his life, yet there is an enormous discrepancy between what they are supposed to live on as the basic lowest income we expect for each of those groups?

Why is the minister not going to move immediately to make sure they are at least brought to the basic senior citizens' level and perhaps a little higher because of the extra costs that handicapped people have to incur?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** Mr. Speaker, I believe I answered that question in a general way in response to the previous question. But let me inform the House, and particularly the member for Scarborough West, that the government for some years has had the Ontario Advisory Council

on the Physically Handicapped, of which the member is probably aware. This council has been very representative of the disabled people in the province and has given good advice to the province, some of which has been implemented and much of which is under active consideration at this time.

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, I want to remind the provincial secretary that we are not talking about a handful of people here; we are talking about more than 68,000 individuals in this province. I want to remind him further that we did not have to wait until the budget to get the kind of action that was long overdue for the single elderly.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Question.

**Mr. Wrye:** When is the minister going to move to equalize the amount of money the provincial government pays out to those who are handicapped? When is he going to move, as my leader has suggested, to make the payments to those who are physically or developmentally handicapped when they reach 18 either immediate or, where his bureaucracy does not have the job done by the time their 18th birthdays arrive, retroactive?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member undoubtedly knows, the actual day-to-day operation of such programs and policies is not under my secretariat but rather under the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea). Our role is that of a policy co-ordinating and policy vetting agency, and I would suggest that perhaps the member might wish to ask this question some time of the other minister.

2:30 p.m.

#### LAYOFFS AT INCO LTD.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Treasurer.

Given the fact that the assets of the Inco pension fund have gone up by 32 per cent in the last two years from \$606 million to \$800 million, I would like to ask the Treasurer whether he would be prepared to be a little bit innovative in the face of this disastrous announcement for these 500 workers in Port Colborne and encourage the creation of an early retirement plan that would bring together a company that has a pension fund that is well funded and the workers who have been affected by this, which would mean the older workers would be able to take advantage of early retirement, rather than have the impact of this layoff forced solely on younger workers.



Is the Treasurer prepared to be innovative in this case and intervene directly to see that a fair deal takes place for both older and younger workers at Inco in Port Colborne?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, as I recall, when I was Minister of Industry and Tourism there was an unfortunately large number of instances in which this kind of plant closure occurred. I recall that a number of the major employers did sit down with their employees and their unions and work out a variety of provisions, including some early retirement arrangements which worked out very well.

So long as this sort of thing is occurring, so long as the unions are at the table and able to discuss some of those options with the companies, it would seem to me we do have a circumstance where an equitable arrangement can be worked out without the kind of government intervention that, one way or another in the longer term, causes some dislocation and ultimately some hardship on those who are going to be caught by that sort of arrangement when perhaps they do not want to be. I believe the best circumstance for the present time is the kind of arrangement we currently have.

If the leader of the third party would ask the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) with regard to what is happening with Inco, I would hope and expect that some arrangements might be worked out in this sort of circumstance with Inco and its workers.

**Mr. Rae:** I take that answer to mean the Treasurer is not prepared to do anything.

The average age of the workers at the plant in Port Colborne is 53. There is a pension fund that is filled to overflowing with a substantial surplus. Surely it is the task of the Ontario government to intervene, to guarantee that workers over 55 will retire without any penalty—

**The Deputy Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** —and receive the same benefit they would receive at 65 and not suffer a financial penalty to allow younger workers to stay on.

I repeat the question to the Treasurer. Is he prepared to intervene on behalf of the younger and the older workers at Inco to see that the older workers do not suffer and to see that the younger workers do not bear the full brunt of the layoff proposal that is now on the table from the company?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Once again, as I outlined a moment ago, in the Inco situation we have seen a circumstance where the parties have

got together and an early retirement has been worked out.

My colleague the Minister of Labour has given me the precise information. They have reached an agreement whereby early retirement will be offered and available to those who have 30 years of service regardless of age, and 20 years of service at, incidentally, age 55, the very age the honourable member is talking about. So those kinds of arrangements are being worked out.

Again, I repeat, if we begin to have government intervene with legislation of the kind the member is suggesting, if we begin to have government take over those decisions, we remove the options to unions, employees and employers to work out those arrangements which work in the long-term benefit of the employees and the companies. That seems to me to be the right way to go, and it is working, as he can see in the Inco situation.

**Mr. Haggerty:** Mr. Speaker, I want to follow up on the questions the leader of the third party has raised. I think the point he is trying to convey to the minister is that in the 1977 layoff of Inco—and at that time there were a large number involved in Port Colborne and in the Sudbury area—the company did come forward with some incentives to encourage those with more seniority to take their early retirement. But there were a number of them who did not meet the criteria, in particular that factor of age 55. Some of them may have had 28 years of employment in that industry but, because of their age, they did not satisfy the age factor of 55.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Does the member have a question?

**Mr. Haggerty:** Many of those persons are not employed today because of that grey line. All we are suggesting is that there should be some incentive in this area from the industry to let those persons enjoy that pension now, instead of locking it into the age of 65. Does the Treasurer agree with this?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, might I say that the honourable member has outlined particularly the problems involved with drawing any sort of line. If he will contemplate for a moment the proposal that has been put before me, it is simply to draw a new line. There would still be people caught under the kind of arbitrary line that has been proposed to us be drawn.

What the member has raised emphasizes very well the importance of having arrangements that are flexible so the company and its employees can work out a scheme that looks at the number of people, who they are, what their job profiles are,



what their backgrounds are, what their ages are, and sees how they can shape a plan to provide early retirement for the particular work force, as opposed to saying: "Do not look to us. The province just put in a new rule and that is all we have to do."

The current circumstance seems to be working to the benefit of those involved. Mr. Speaker, you might want to redirect that question to the Minister of Labour who could provide the specific details with regard to the Inco situation in the member's own riding.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, Inco officials have indicated that those workers who are not affected by the termination but who would be interested in retiring and meet the criteria the Treasurer has outlined, such as 30 years of service or 20 years of service and age 55, would be given an extra incentive of 26 weeks of severance pay, which in most cases would amount to approximately \$13,000, which they could have in one lump sum or draw out over various payments. That is an extra incentive the company has brought forward.

**Mr. Rae:** I want to go back to Treasurer. Given the information that has now been put on the floor of the House by the Minister of Labour, it still amounts to a very substantial loss in comparison to what a worker would have received at 65. The point is that all the early retirement schemes being put forward by companies in these circumstances amount to less than the workers would have received if they had been able to work until they were 65. They are still being asked by the companies to take a loss at a time when pension funds are going up and up because of the high interest rates being paid by borrowers.

Will the Treasurer please intervene on behalf of workers who have no bargaining power in these circumstances, who have no leverage when the company has said: "This is the number that is going. You figure out who is going to go"? Will he intervene to see that we have a province-wide early retirement scheme that guarantees fairness between the generations in this province in terms of the layoffs that are taking place in industry today?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** As the Minister of Labour has just pointed out, if the government had put in the scheme the member is recommending, the following things would have happened. First, sooner or later there would have been an increase in overall costs out of the system which would have encouraged companies that are now having a tough time competing to reduce the size

of their potential liability, reduce the work force and therefore have more people never employed.

The second consequence of what the member is suggesting is that some of the workers involved would not have ended up with the special incentive the Minister of Labour has referred to. They would have ended up with the member's proposal and not the extra money, and therefore would have been less well off had there been intervention through a government mechanism, strapping every firm and every employee into these kinds of rules. They would have walked away without the benefit of having been able to strike the arrangements with the company that fitted their own firm better.

When one gets right down to the bottom line, surely it is the good sense of having the parties to each of these unfortunate circumstances sit down and work it out.

**Mr. Rae:** What choice did the parties have? What choice do the workers have?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** With respect, had the company simply relied upon the absence of choice of the workers, none of these extra arrangements would have been worked out. It indicates the common sense of the current arrangement.

2:40 p.m.

## CONTRACT WORKERS

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my next question is to the Minister responsible for Women's Issues. It concerns an issue I have raised on a number of occasions and addressed to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) and the Minister of Health (Mr. Norton). I have had no satisfaction from them.

I would like to try asking this minister to take an interest in this problem, because it very much affects the women of this province. I am referring to the epidemic of contracting out in the health care field, and particularly in the nursing home field.

The minister will be aware that both Villa Columbo and the Heritage Nursing Home this past week have announced that they are going to be gutting their bargaining units, firing workers, more than 90 per cent of whom are women who are making between \$7.50 and \$8.50 an hour depending on their job, and replacing them with contracted out employees who are going to be making far less than that, somewhere between \$4 and \$5.

What is the Minister responsible for Women's Issues going to do in defence of working women in this province who are making between \$7.50



and \$8.50 an hour who have families to raise, children to feed, and mortgages or rents to pay? What is he going to do for those workers to protect their employment when private sector employers and some public sector employers are just waving their wands and saying, "Goodbye, so long, we do not need you any more"? What is he going to do to protect them?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding it has been pointed out to the honourable member in response to this type of question in the past that there are a number of cases covering this issue currently before the Ontario Labour Relations Board. It would seem wise to await the outcome of the consideration of that board before making any rash responses to a question like this.

**Mr. Rae:** Ballycliffe Lodge, Kennedy Lodge Nursing Home, Brantwood Manor, Thompson House, the Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital and the Wellesley Hospital have now been joined by Villa Columbo and Heritage Nursing Home. Heritage Nursing Home and Villa Columbo were not deterred from firing their workers because of the actions before the labour board.

What is the minister going to do to protect women workers who are making \$8 an hour and who need that money to be able to raise their families? What is he going to do in defence of those women?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I cannot add anything to the answer to the original question.

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, surely the minister understands his role as the Minister responsible for Women's Issues should be broad enough that he would be able to sit down with his colleagues and urge upon them initiatives to overcome various difficulties that occur in ministries for which they have line responsibilities.

Surely in this case, where it appears there is a pattern of contracting out in which the people affected are almost exclusively women, he should be willing to sit down with his colleagues and discuss some initiatives other than those which the Ontario Labour Relations Board may or may not take in the fullness of time. Surely the women of this province deserve something better than the kind of uncertainty so many of them are going through now.

Is he prepared to sit down with his colleague the Minister of Labour, with whom he is now chatting, and have a little more formal chat about the kinds of initiatives this government might take to stop this kind of action?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps one or two points should be made in response to the supplementary.

One, this does not impact only on women. We are also talking about men who work at minimum wage or a little more. We are thinking in terms of everybody, I am sure. The percentages are a matter of fact and could be established, but I think we should understand we take that into account.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** You are doing nothing in terms of anybody.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** I am responding to the question. We know we have line ministers who are charged with these responsibilities. If the member wants to ask the question here, fine, I will respond as best I can.

Two, I would point out that a number of these matters are before the board and I would think that would be the place for their resolution.

Three, regardless of the facts, I would think these matters could be ascertained and that in future negotiations the whole question of contracting out might well be a subject for negotiations at those times as well.

**Mr. Rae:** The minister is a fine one to talk about negotiations. His government stopped the workers from being able to negotiate. It took away the right to negotiate and that is why the workers have no bargaining power. The government is responsible for what happened. The government put them up to it.

I would like to point out to the minister that each one of these organizations that has fired workers and is trying to replace them with workers at a minimum wage level, each one of these employers is in receipt of vast sums of public moneys on a regular basis. It is the taxpayer who is funding these organizations, whether it is a hospital, a nursing home or a charitable home for the aged.

As the minister who is supposed to be responsible for seeing that the women of this province get a fair deal, and since it was his government that took away the right to negotiate and affected the bargaining power of these women and thousands of other workers in the public sector, what is he planning to do on behalf of these women to see that they can keep their jobs at a decent wage and not have to give way to people who are having to work for \$4 or \$4.50 an hour? What is he going to do about it?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** The leader of the third party has simply repeated his main question, to which he has had an answer.



## FUNDING FOR ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Education. The minister will know, since I sent her a memo on it last Thursday, the Prescott and Russell County Board of Education has developed a new educational policy—is the minister listening?—regarding alternative education funding.

As of January 31, 1984, there were 2,000 students enrolled in alternative education in Prescott-Russell. That is roughly 20 times the number in major cities such as Ottawa. I remind the minister of the functional illiteracy rate we have and other problems in my constituency.

Can she tell us why, through memo B-9, she has effectively cancelled such programs, reducing the grants by some \$680,000 for half of one year alone? This will result in the firing of at least 15 teachers who teach those programs in a community such as Prescott-Russell, which so desperately needs that help.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member has a peculiar definition of "memorandum." What he sent me was an open letter, which I gather he had already sent to the press before he sent it to me.

The ministry funding memorandum is a very straightforward memorandum which ensures there will be funding for adult basic literacy programs within the school system on the same basis as any other program, that is, without the charging of an additional fee. It does require of boards, however, that they have a reasonable arrangement related to the provision of the educational program, a little more than simply telephoning a teacher who may or may not be within a school on an irregular basis to assist that student in the completion of the program.

Discussions are going on at present with various boards about the ways in which greater flexibility could be built into that adult basic literacy program to ensure that it meets the needs of all the students who require the additional assistance the program can give to them.

**Mr. Boudria:** You cancelled it because it worked.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** We did not cancel it.

**Mr. Boudria:** Yes, you did.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** No, we did not.

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, the minister has in place in Prescott-Russell an extremely popular and successful program for meeting the objectives she says she has in the throne speech. Why does she want to cut off funds to the degree she

has for this highly successful program, which deals with the problem of providing new skills for people in our province in a much more aggressive and meaningful way than she or her ministry has done?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member is not entirely correct in suggesting the objectives are not going to be funded. They have very specifically been funded through the new arrangements for funding for adult basic literacy and for upgrading, which we have taken as seriously as any jurisdiction in North America.

I do believe there are ways in which greater flexibility can be built into the provision of those programs through the public school system, which is precisely what we are trying to do. Greater flexibility does not mean licence to utilize taxpayers' money in ways that may not achieve the goals of the program as they are delineated within the Education Act and the other documents provided.

2:50 p.m.

## AMATEUR HOCKEY

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. Is the minister aware of a study by Dr. Charles H. Tator of the department of neurosurgery at Sunnybrook which indicates that from 1976 to 1983 there have been 42 spinal injuries—median age 17, average age 20—and that Ontario has 26 of these injuries, more than the rest of Canada and the United States combined?

There are 34 injuries which occurred in organized games; 17 players had total paralysis below the level of injury and five more have lost the power of ambulation. Consequently, in a seven-year period, 22 of 42 players will be confined to wheelchairs for the rest of their lives.

Can the minister say what the government is prepared to do to reduce these serious accidents? Of 15 boys who were injured, 11 were pushed from behind when they could not defend themselves.

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, I am very much aware of Dr. Tator's study at Sunnybrook Medical Centre because we financed it. As the honourable member knows, we have also provided considerable financing to do research in sports medicine, particularly in relation to hockey. We have done this for the last three or four years, ever since we organized with the member's help the Hockey Ontario Development Committee. We are not going to discontinue our efforts in this. We will continue to help and



support hockey and the sports medicine people to try to get to the bottom of what I, and I think all of us in this House, regard as a very disconcerting situation.

As the member knows and as he has said, because I listened to the conclusions reached by him on Let's Discuss It, his conclusions are very similar to those over here. It is not a sensible thing for the government simply to rush in and try to legislate or try to police the game to try to make it safer.

As the member has suggested, and I would agree, it is a matter of doing some basic research and it is a matter of attitudinal change. In the last three or four years, we have substantially stepped up our financing in the hockey world to carry on these exercises, but to say and conclude—which obviously neither Dr. Tator nor Mr. Firth or any of the others who are doing research in this field have concluded—that it is a result of goonery in hockey, or because of body contact below a certain age group, or because of charging behind or whatever, would be dangerous and premature. The experts tell us we first have to get to the bottom of it.

As the member also knows, and as was indicated in Dr. Tator's report, a study was done by the University of Waterloo to take a good, systematic, scientific look at the possibility some youngsters who wear protective helmets are more vulnerable to back injuries than if they have no protective equipment at all, because the equipment might be too heavy. Apparently the study has proved that is not the case.

This is perhaps too detailed a response, but we are aware of the problem, we are standing behind the research people and the sports medicine people, we are helping to finance their studies, and when the time comes and the evidence is there we are also prepared to act along with them. They themselves have done this. They have made tentative recommendations to the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association.

**Mr. Martel:** I am pleased to hear the minister's answer because that is exactly what Dr. Tator is suggesting.

Is the minister aware that Dr. Tator in his report makes the following recommendations: "Enforcement of the current rules. Introduction of a new rule, particularly to protect one from being hit from the blind side or from the rear"?

I told the minister last week, as well as three years ago and four years ago, we know that hitting from the rear causes a lot of accidents and there is no protection, and we know there is a lot of intimidation in the use of the stick. This study

recommends stricter enforcement of the existing rules. Whether I like the government to be involved or not, the statistics are mounting. I understand there is a further report that says those statistics might be somewhat higher since last year.

What is the minister prepared to do now to ensure the rules are applied uniformly across this province? What is he prepared to do to insist there will be a rule in force by next fall to prevent an attack from the rear, against which there is no defence by anyone?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** The member knows full well if we wanted to enforce such a rule, as he has said, we would probably have to do it through legislation. I am not prepared to stand up here at this time and say that will happen.

I think the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association is now more fully aware of some of the difficulties and the reasons these injuries take place. It will be incumbent upon that organization to lower the boom, as it were, on its officials and its leagues throughout this country, to enforce some of these rules. We will do what we can here to help CAHA do exactly that.

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, recognizing that it would indeed be a mistake for the government of Ontario to dictate specific policy on minor hockey, nevertheless, the figures that have been produced cause a lot of concern. Those of us who see a lot of minor hockey games are well aware of the violence that takes place.

With this in mind, would the minister be prepared to convene a conference of hockey officials—I am talking about the management, the league conveners themselves, the heads of associations, coaches and even players—to get together with officials of the ministry to discuss the problem and come forward with recommendations during the summer, because the season is almost at an end, that could be implemented in the fall under the auspices of the various associations that deal with minor hockey? Is the minister prepared to convene such a conference?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, that process has already been started. Certainly we will be working with the CAHA and we will be working with organized hockey in this province, the Metropolitan Toronto Hockey League, the Ontario Minor Hockey Association, all of them, to try to alter some of the rules and also to have some of the existing rules more strictly enforced.

To go back to the question of attitudinal change, we have to work our way to that. It does not happen overnight. It will certainly take some



time for this to happen. As the member knows, some of the members at the head of the leagues may not be totally convinced immediate overnight action is necessary. We have to change those attitudes. This matter has been of serious concern to us for some time. I really do believe we are making strides, aided by some very good sports medicine research.

#### FUNDING FOR PROVINCIAL PARKS

**Mr. Eakins:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. My question concerns natural resources, but I note that minister is not in the House. It should also be of great importance to tourism in this province. It involves the provincial government's funding constraints on provincial parks and how this is affecting tourism in the area.

Is the minister aware the cutbacks in funding for a provincial park such as Turkey Point on the north shore of Lake Erie have so limited the maintenance and improvement of the park that the land is seriously eroding and the two-mile beach nearby, a major tourist attraction for the area, is losing 3.3 feet per year as a result?

With the pride we all share in our province in our bicentennial year, what steps will the minister take, in co-operation with his colleague the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope), to improve the general area and, in particular, remedy the very serious lack of adequate washroom and other facilities in this park? These things make the difference between having an attractive area for our tourists and not. What action does the minister plan to take?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member has indicated, this is a matter for my colleague the Minister of Natural Resources. Expenditures on provincial parks are his responsibility.

**3 p.m.**

Obviously, as Minister of Tourism and Recreation, I have a very strong interest in seeing to it our provincial parks continue to be very attractive to tourists. I should, however, also say—and I think the member would agree with this—Ontario is fortunate in having probably the largest and the finest inventory of provincial or state parks anywhere in the world. I am sure the Minister of Natural Resources will also want us to help maintain this goal. We will continue to maintain these parks at a very high standard. I will be talking to him to make sure that many tourists will be able to enjoy our wonderful inventory of parks.

**Mr. G. I. Miller:** Mr. Speaker, does the minister realize that Turkey Point has accommodated some 300,000 visitors per year and that the area has one of the largest marinas on Lake Erie's north shore in addition to a fine beach but that it is in danger of losing the millions of dollars of tourist revenue the area has received as the beach erodes more and more each year?

The Turkey Point Property Owners Association reported to the rural municipalities' task force in Simcoe last week that the change houses and comfort stations are filthy and are falling apart, with holes in the floors, etc. Visitors to the beach just cannot use them and must go to local business outlets to use these facilities. This group pointed out that there is certainly a lack of funding from the ministry.

As tourism plays a tremendous role in the overall economy of Ontario, does the minister not feel that more funding should be made available, particularly in this bicentennial year when we are trying to celebrate Ontario's birthday? I noticed that the Premier (Mr. Davis) opened the celebration this past weekend with a fine program from New York city.

**The Deputy Speaker:** May we have the question?

**Mr. G. I. Miller:** Can we not put some of that money to work in Ontario in order to upgrade our facilities?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** I am, of course, totally aware and pleased that the honourable member opposite is fully aware of the tremendous tourist attraction Turkey Point has become. As I indicated in my earlier reply, I will be prepared to take it up with my colleague the Minister of Natural Resources to see what financial plans he has in mind for the Turkey Point park. I am sure they will be adequate so we can continue to maintain the very high and wonderful standards of that facility.

**Mr. Stokes:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if there have been any discussions in cabinet about transferring the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of our provincial parks system from the Ministry of Natural Resources to his ministry so it can complement what is so important all over the province by way of tourism. Given the responsibility of the Minister of Natural Resources for all the other resources, does he not think the parks system gets lost in the overall scheme of things?

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. I think this honourable member above all knows it would be stretching the truth to call that a supplementary.



**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Oh, no.

**Mr. Stokes:** About the management of our parks?

**The Deputy Speaker:** Yes, sir. These were specific parks.

**Mr. Stokes:** I do not need any lectures from you.

**The Deputy Speaker:** But if the minister would like to respond, please do so.

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Without divulging cabinet secrets, I can only say we are constantly looking at who administers what and we are always looking at this. It is the subject of ongoing consideration and evaluation.

### HOSPITAL BEDS

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. He will be aware of the study that was conducted by the Metropolitan Toronto District Health Council on bed utilization.

We in this party contacted many of the hospitals in the Toronto area to find out what their specific situations were. For example, at Wellesley Hospital we found that 40 to 50 people are waiting for chronic care; at Toronto Western Hospital 105 are waiting for long-term care; at Scarborough Centenary Hospital 30 to 35 per cent of the beds have inappropriately placed patients; at Queensway General Hospital, 87; and at Sunnybrook Medical Centre, 95. We also found that the waiting list for elective surgery to get into hospital is extremely long in this particular area, as it is across the province.

Are these symptoms of a health care system that is supposed to be working so smoothly, or are they not symptoms of a health care system that is falling apart partly because of underfunding and bad planning on the part of the Minister of Health?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, I am sure if the honourable member were to plumb the depths of his own integrity he would realize the questions he asked reflect a partisan comment on the system as opposed to a careful examination of the facts relating to the quality of health care in this province.

I am aware of the report to which he has referred; it is currently under review within the ministry. I am also aware that there are people in acute care facilities awaiting longer-term care beds. But the member also should be aware that very recently there have been some bed awards within the Metropolitan Toronto area, which will help to relieve some of that pressure.

They are not yet on stream and they are not yet constructed, but they will be; the approvals have certainly been given. In the course of allocating beds in this next year, presumably the document that has been forwarded to me by the district health council by way of advice will be carefully considered in establishing the allocation of those beds.

Waiting lists for elective procedures are a fact everywhere in the world. The situation in Ontario is probably better than that in 99.9 per cent of the other jurisdictions in the world.

**Mr. Cooke:** The fact of the matter is that, in addition to waiting for elective surgery, people of this province have to spend a great deal of their time when they need assistance in emergency rooms, hallways or special rooms that are now set up to hold patients because there are not enough beds in this province and there are a lot of people inappropriately placed.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Question.

**Mr. Cooke:** For example, at Humber Memorial Hospital it is not unusual to have 12 people waiting in the emergency room.

**The Deputy Speaker:** This is not statement time; it is question period.

**Mr. Cooke:** For example, at Sunnybrook one can wait four days to get into an acute care bed while waiting in emergency. There are some people in the hospitals in Toronto, one in particular, who have waited up to two years to get a long-term bed.

When is this province going to put in place a strategy that uses institutional care for those people who absolutely need it; and when are we going to get a comprehensive program of alternatives in the communities that include day care, day hospitals and care for the frail elderly while they are at home? When is the government going to put those alternatives in place, or does the minister plan on continuing to emphasize institutional care in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** How could anyone make a statement such as this gentleman just did in talking about emphasizing institutional care when we have just completed putting chronic and acute home care services in place across the province? These are now available in every jurisdiction except Metropolitan Toronto, although we are now in the first phase of introducing chronic home care here, which will be completed by September of this year?

Look across the province at the number of day hospitals that are now in operation. If the member shakes his head no, I will take him and



show him some of them. They do exist—not in every community, but the system is growing and developing.

It is not going to happen overnight, but the member should not sit there and suggest we are continuing to emphasize only institutional care when in this province we are spending almost \$1 billion of our own money, at least exclusively provincial money, to put in place such community-based services as exist and to expand them without any assistance whatsoever from the federal government.

It is the initiative of this government that has made our health care system one of the leading systems in the whole world. Do not sit there and make those kinds of allegations.

3:10 p.m.

### STUDY BY ONTARIO HYDRO

**Mr. McLean:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy. In the region of Orillia, Bracebridge, Huntsville, Parry Sound and Burk's Falls there is a proposal for a restructuring of Ontario Hydro facilities, which would relocate 54 employees from Orillia either to Bracebridge or Barrie, thereby taking away \$2.5 million per year from the Orillia economy. Can the minister assure me this is only a study and that it will not necessarily become a fact?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, there are those cynics in this House who might suggest the member gave me notice of that question. I would not want to mislead the members but to assure them instead that he did. I will give him a very succinct answer as I am accustomed to doing.

I can assure the member that at the present time the study is only that. It is part of Ontario Hydro's assessment of its service areas. It is an ongoing assessment in an attempt to address some very severe constraints which are being placed on the operations section of Ontario Hydro by its board. They are indeed watching the bucks. I assure the member that, in addressing this issue, Hydro is looking at the Orillia area as well as other areas of the province. At the present time it is a study which is soliciting input from the municipal councils in the area in order that a fair and realistic assessment can be made of this situation.

**Mr. McLean:** Can the minister assure me that this study in its present proposed form will not take place?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** I am not aware of the precise detail of the study in its present form. Therefore, I cannot give that kind of assurance. The member knows full well that these kinds of decisions will be made by the board of directors

of Ontario Hydro in the fullness of time, bearing in mind the input of the municipalities and individuals and representations made by the people such as this member.

**Mr. Eakins:** Mr. Speaker, is the minister not really trying to save bucks at the expense of the rural communities of this province? Why is he taking these services away from rural people who will have farther to travel? Why does he not save his dollars on Darlington and other areas? It is a disadvantage for the rural people of this province; they will have to travel more miles and have less service in order that the government may save itself some dollars. Why does he not look after the rural people of this province?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I would remind the honourable member that these decisions rest with the board of Ontario Hydro. One year ago—maybe more—a decision was taken to amalgamate certain areas in southwestern Ontario, which necessitated the closing of the office in Hamilton. That is not a rural area. These restructurings are necessary and are under continual discussion. They will not mean any withdrawal or reduction of services, only a saving of dollars.

### PETITION

#### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a petition signed by 78 petitioners from Metropolitan Toronto, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Eakins:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a petition, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are



still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition bears 41 signatures from the great county of Haliburton.

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from Windsor identical to the two that were just presented and I endorse the petition. It reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### ELECTION FINANCES REFORM AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Philip moved, seconded by Mr. Swart, first reading of Bill 22, An Act to amend the Election Finances Reform Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Philip:** This bill is intended to clarify that municipal corporations are not entitled to make contributions under the act.

### CONDOMINIUM AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Philip moved, seconded by Mr. McClellan, first reading of Bill 23, An Act to amend the Condominium Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Philip:** This bill would provide for repeal of the unproclaimed provisions of the Condominium Act that relate to the condominium bureau and provide instead for a registrar of condominiums, who would give advisory services to the public, maintain a registrar of mailing addresses of condominiums and issue licences to condominium managers.

Condominium management would be restricted to licensees, except in the case of managers of single condominiums having no more than 100 units. The Lieutenant Governor in Council would be empowered to make regulations requiring the posting of bonds. The Association of Condominium Managers of Ontario may, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, set standards for the managers.

The bill also provides for a consensual procedure for the review and resolution of disputes within a condominium.

3:20 p.m.

### CONDOMINIUM AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Philip moved, seconded by Mr. McClellan, first reading of Bill 24, An Act to amend the Condominium Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Philip:** Mr. Speaker, this bill would authorize condominium corporations to make bylaws providing for the collection of special levies from owners of residential units occupied by tenants.

### GAME AND FISH AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Philip moved, seconded by Mr. Swart, first reading of Bill 25, An Act to amend the Game and Fish Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Philip:** Mr. Speaker, this bill restricts the use on land of leghold traps. It also provides for a trap exchange program and makes a number of changes which would make trapping more humane. It has been publicly endorsed by the Canadian Association for Humane Trapping, the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, every major humane society in Canada and numerous other groups concerned about humane issues.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Mr. Treleaven, resolution 2.

Motion agreed to.

### COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Hon. Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Mr. Treleaven, resolution 3.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, with the leave of the House, I would like to move now a motion that sets up the committees but does not appear printed on the order paper.



Agreed to.

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the membership on the standing committees for the fourth session be as follows:

Reading dispensed with [see Votes and Proceedings].

Motion agreed to.

#### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to take up where I left off on Friday. Before I recount what is continuing to happen, not only in Hamilton but also across the province, I think it would be useful to recapitulate the figures from the Consolidated-Bathurst plant with which I ended.

I remind the members of the figures I left with. Out of the 207 workers at the Consolidated-Bathurst plant who were let go as a result of the corporate rationalization, now, getting close to a year later, only 83 of them have found employment, 81 full-time and two part-time. As I said, 90 per cent of those are working for less money than when they were employed at Consolidated-Bathurst. One hundred and six of them are still unemployed.

Only 28 workers are on upgrading or retraining programs, and most of them are older workers. I can tell members it is tough. I did not talk to one who was very happy about it or who felt it was of much use to them in their situation.

So far, only three are on welfare, but in the third week in April most of the rest of them run out of the unemployment insurance benefits and most of them then, if they have not already used it, will have to rely on spending the money they had saved for pensions because of the fact the pensions were not the best in the world in that plant. Before they will qualify for welfare, they will have to use up the savings they had saved in their 20 to 30 years in that plant and had intended to use for their retirement.

This is the kind of situation we have and we have got some people who are pretty despondent. Consolidated-Bathurst only mirrors what is happening in plant after plant.

I hope to have the figures for this House shortly on what has happened to almost 700

workers at International Harvester Canada Ltd. They are gathering that information in the local union now, but I can tell the House the same pattern and the same story are emerging about people who have not been able to find jobs, who have a long service with the company and who do not expect ever to be back.

Once again, I ask the members on the other side of the House: what has this government done to deal with this problem? What is in the throne speech? Absolutely nothing.

I made reference to the sizeable growth in the number of employables who are going on to the welfare case loads across Ontario. In my own town, the numbers of employable people on the welfare rolls have been as follows: 2,064 in August 1981, 5,353 in January 1984 and 5,388 in February 1984. Another group will jump on within the next month from the Consolidated-Bathurst plant. They are coming on almost daily from the International Harvester plant in our town.

Allen Industries Canada had a brief respite, but some 200 workers there, most of whom have long-term service, will be added to that list a short way down the road. I hate to predict, but I am afraid we are going to see an increase in the general welfare case load and an increase in the employables on that list. This is a category of people who just have not been on general welfare in our communities before. Once again, what do we see being done about it?

The weekend paper in my town had at least three more incidences, at least one of which has been raised in this House. The smaller ones include a couple of restaurants, one of which is Malarky's. There were 50 employees who were given very sudden notice that they were terminated. The workers are very angry about it. I will not go into the details, but just over the weekend, another 50 were terminated.

We have the Port Colborne situation where 490 workers got the axe permanently. The comment my leader made in the question period today is very interesting. He pointed out that the president of the local, Mr. Moreau, went in and asked the management of the company: "There are rumours around the plant that there may be fairly heavy layoffs. Is there any truth to them?" The answer he was given, of course, was, "No, there will be nothing more than the usual summer layoffs." The next day we learned from the paper that 490 Inco employees were permanently out.

**3:30 p.m.**

In Fort Erie, Hart and Cooley just last week notified the 38 remaining workers in that plant



that they were finished. As I think I mentioned on Friday, the piece in the paper says, "Fifteen qualified workers may be offered a transfer to one of the other Hart and Cooley plants, but it will be based on"—and they made it very clear—"their work record and their expertise."

Members know what that means. If those workers happen to have had a Workers' Compensation Board case or any kind of mark against them during their previous years of employment with that company, they will not be transferred. I do not know how long this is going to continue going on in Ontario, but it is something that certainly should be worrying this government and something this government should be taking a look at. I find it impossible to understand why there is absolutely nothing in the throne speech to deal with this problem.

Apart from the continuing saga of layoffs, we have the growing experience in this province of part-time workers. I do not know when we are going to come to grips with the situation when a worker loses his job. In many cases he has had a great deal of service and he has had some reason up until now to believe that was his security and how he was going to feed his family and keep the kids going to school for the next period of time. He suddenly finds himself out of work.

The interesting phenomenon going around the province is that we are picking up twice as many part-time jobs as we are new jobs. Workers who have lost full-time jobs are getting part-time jobs. Where are the benefits? What is going to happen? How are these people going to continue to pay mortgages and bills? Is this the kind of future employment picture the Conservative government in Ontario is looking at? I do not hear it being discussed. I do not see anything in the throne speech about the changing patterns of employment, but that certainly is what is happening out there in the community.

In the throne speech the government announced its intention to improve benefits for certain government employees. "To provide wider access to improved rights and benefits, the civil service will include employees who work on a regular part-time basis." We are talking about some of the benefits now.

It does not matter how many times one recycles such a promise. When the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program was announced in 1981 in this House, the government said, "The province intends to discuss with the Ontario Public Service Employees Union a number of staffing initiatives which will create the flexibility to accommodate

changing employee needs. Among the ideas being explored are the inclusion of unclassified employees into permanent part-time positions and the conversion of full-time positions into part-time positions."

The backgrounder to the throne speech goes on to say there may some 7,000 part-time workers involved. As we have seen, even the ministry has had to do a little bit of dancing on that one, and the actual figure is about 3,000. We are dealing with about one in four of the unclassified employees in the provincial civil service. There is nothing I have heard said or have seen in the throne speech that says we are going to start dealing with the kind of benefits or wage levels that are there in terms of the part-time employees in the private sector.

The part-time employee growth in the private sector is substantial and significant. The statistics for last January show that of 712,000 part-time workers, 503,000 or 71 per cent are women and 209,000 are men. I mentioned the growth earlier in part-time employees. In one month part-time employment increased by 16,000. A figure I think is scary and staggering in Ontario now is that 17 per cent of all jobs in Ontario are now part-time jobs. That figure has been increasing yearly in this province.

Once again, what kind of protection is there for these workers? What does it mean in terms of their ability to purchase and keep their homes going, keep their families in school and keep paying the bills? What is there in the throne speech to deal with this problem and this group of people? We do not see anything.

I said on Friday that the demand of many companies in negotiations today for a dual wage scale in the plants is one of the most dangerous developments we have seen in Ontario in terms of undermining workers' wages and the rights of workers to the same pay for the same job. We are seeing the same thing happen now in contracting out.

The attack has been led in the nursing home field. There is not a week here that we do not see another nursing home contracting out. We had two more cases raised in this House today where the wages of workers, anywhere from 30 to 40 to as many as more than 100 in some cases, have been cut back. Their wages are not high. The highest I have seen yet in any that have contracted out is close to the \$10 range. Most of them make from \$7 to \$8.50 in wages.

The workers are notified at the minimum requirement and are told they are finished. Then they contract out to an outfit for somewhere



between \$4 and \$6. And, let me tell the members, \$6 is high in the ones we have talked to. In most cases, it is in the \$4.50 to \$5 range. If people are desperate, some of them may be coming back at that lower rate because there is no job for them out there in the community. But an awful lot are not going to be anywhere near as well qualified.

The classes, the training and retraining programs that many of these health care workers have taken in an effort to upgrade their skills and give us quality care in nursing homes and extended care facilities are really wasted; they are thrown away. It is either that or we have really insulted them by putting them through the courses. How many of them are going to use their skills at \$4.50, \$4.75 or \$5 an hour?

What we are doing to workers in this province is a crime. Once again, I see absolutely nothing in terms of any action by this government. As a matter of fact, if there is an indictment of the Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch), it is his lack of action and his callousness—I do not care how good a front he puts on, that is all one can call it—in response to the questions that are asked about this situation which almost entirely involves female employees.

In the throne speech there was a lot of rhetoric about better communications and less confrontation. What is going on today in Local 113 of the Amalgamated Transit Union and the desperate effort to protect the jobs of Gray Coach drivers? A lot of the work has been contracted out to GO Transit to serve the various towns and communities around this part of the province.

GO Transit decided it was going to hire its own drivers in spite of years and years of a background of working and contracting with the Gray Coach service and its drivers. The union tried to meet with management. It appealed to the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow) for some assistance. What happened?

I was talking to Mr. Johnston today, and he said that GO Transit management has refused to meet with the union on the grounds that it would be contrary to the Ontario Labour Relations Act since GO Transit has contracts with another union. I do not hear the other union complaining. It is absolutely ridiculous to use that kind of argument. When the government is going to do something that could mean the jobs of a good number of workers, the least it owes them is to sit down with them and their unions and discuss

what is happening, how many can be used or whether all of them can be used.

We understand, although this may be a point of argument, there is probably going to be very little difference in the costs that are involved.

Why do we take the attitude that the government has the right to do this, that it does not need to talk to those workers? They are only going to lose their jobs and a good many years of service with Gray Coach. Is that what we mean when we talk about less confrontation and more discussion with workers and their organizations in Ontario? If so, it is a pretty sad state of affairs.

The government talks, but in every action we have going on, right up until today, whether it is in closures or in contracting-out situations like this, there is absolutely nothing being done by this government and no response to legitimate questions being raised, such as the safety and health questions and some of the other questions I raised on Friday. Nothing is happening.

Where is this new co-operation, this new way of dealing with workers in Ontario? Where is it?

Another situation bothers me. There is a lack of any planning that we can see or get our teeth into in what is happening in the changing pattern of employment in Ontario and what we do when a firm is in trouble. I am not a great one for dishing out public funds to the private sector, at least not the way we have done it up until now, but if we are going to do that then I want to know clearly what kind of an agreement there is and what kinds of guarantees we receive for public funds in terms of jobs, protection and planning for the future for the workers in Ontario.

**3:40 p.m.**

We have a very interesting situation. There have been meetings with government ministers who were called in the other day or were requested to meet with some of the management and ownership of the Royal Connaught Hotel in downtown Hamilton. I refer the members to an article in Saturday's Hamilton Spectator which I think lays out the story pretty well. It is about the same thing we got when we met with the owners of that hotel.

What was the position they put to us? They put to us that in the last two or three years they have been losing about \$800,000 a year. They cannot continue that way. One of the reasons was they did not have the recreation facilities, the pool and many of the things they needed, particularly in order to compete with the two new hotels—although I think we have been taken to the cleaners on one of them—that we hope are going up in Hamilton.



They pointed out those two new hotels in Hamilton have qualified for and were getting, in some of the frantic negotiations that have been going on between the federal and provincial governments, about \$12 million in assistance. They also pointed out to us that they themselves have spent about \$10 million over the last three or four years on renovations in the Royal Connaught Hotel. They need to spend an additional \$5 million, roughly, to bring it up to par. They expect to be able to raise some of that themselves.

Because they have not had one cent of assistance—they stress that and I am taking it at face value; I have no way of checking—from either level of government and will be faced with competition from two brand-new hotels that have received about \$12 million of the taxpayers' money, they are asking for \$3.1 million to expand and to finish the renovation they started about three years ago and to keep them in business.

This raises some serious questions; it raises some serious questions with me as well. But I have difficulty in arguing against their logic, given what we have done with the other two hotels. I am really not sure we should be in this private enterprise funding at all, but the fact is we are. There has been almost a race to see how much more money the two new hotels could get in Hamilton.

Here we have the most established hotel to date. It has been there a long time. It is not venerable; it is not that old yet, but it is an institution that is part of the city of Hamilton and that anchors the east end of downtown Hamilton. They go so far as to tell us that they either need to know they have this kind of money—they say they do not even need all the cash but some guarantees that they have got most of it, or certainly very low-interest loans to cover most of it—or they will be shut down by December.

On top of everything else—and they may be using a little muscle there, too; I do not know—what would happen in downtown Hamilton and elsewhere in Hamilton if a hotel like the Royal Connaught were forced to shut down, if the several hundred workers there went as well; if the anchor at the east-end of the downtown development we have been trying to get in Hamilton really were undercut tremendously with that one move?

Where is the pattern? What is it? Is it how loudly they yell and whether or not they can get to enough cabinet ministers that will determine whether the Royal Connaught will get some help

from the provincial and federal governments? Or are they going to be out of luck? And how do they rationalize this as against the two new units that are going up in downtown Hamilton?

Without passing judgement, I am saying if there is any rational planning and any rational pattern in the plans to develop cities, to protect jobs or to decide who, when and how somebody gets access to the public treasury, I do not know what it is; and I certainly do not get any clear outline in the throne speech we had here in the House the other day.

We have a real dispute going on in our city over the government of Ontario advanced light rail transit. The minister responsible can dance all he wants on the issue. I can tell him that the perception right across town—and I have not jumped on a particular route on this issue myself as yet—is that the city of Hamilton wants the elevated York Street route to show off its new cars, and we either go that way, which is certainly the route the province is pushing, or we do not get the darn thing; they will stop it in Burlington. This makes no sense whatsoever, but it is the kind of blackmail, if you like, that the city is getting.

I simply have to ask, is this what we are talking about in the words that are in the throne speech about co-operation and working together, whether it is with workers or whether it is with communities across the province?

There is another interesting thing. When the city is using this kind of clout, what are its commitments? There has been some real misunderstanding as to how much the provincial government is going to be responsible for in the development of this expressway into downtown Hamilton.

It has been estimated to cost about \$140 million. We understand, although now I have people questioning it, Hamilton-Wentworth would be taking responsibility for 25 per cent of the cost and the ministry would assume 75 per cent of the funding for the project. Some people were a little bit shocked when I put that proposition to them. Is it accurate?

When will the minister clearly outline to the region exactly what share in the cost the ministry is going to cover, if indeed they do proceed with the GO-ALRT route into the city of Hamilton?

We in this party have argued, and argued very hard, for the expenditure of some funds to bring in one of the plants that was supposed to be a state of the art piece when it was developed a good many years ago, the solid waste reduction unit plant for garbage burning in the east end of



Hamilton. To date there is a desperate need for changes that allow them to burn at a higher temperature so we do not have heavy emissions, the dioxins that are coming out now and that are scaring people.

Although we are told it is probably on the list, we have real difficulties finding out when, and indeed if, the Ministry of the Environment is prepared to move. That is a possible job creation program. In the meantime, the public is more and more upset by continuing controversy over just how effective are the ministry tests. There is serious question as to the adequacy of the ministry tests.

They are testing at low burns, they are testing with only one boiler on and in circumstances that do not allow one to have a true reading of the dioxins that are escaping from that plant, instead of getting under way with what we know has to be done if this operation is to continue in place—and I think it would be a crime to have to shut it down. We have to have some pretty fast action by the ministry in renewing and redoing the Swaru facility.

I see nothing about something as important as that and it is one of the burning operations that can be used as an example, as a pilot project in Ontario. It should be a priority item, but we do not see anything happening.

In this House I have heard the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman), and I think the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay), say, when we raised questions and concerns on unemployment: "We have had a meeting with the Ontario Federation of Labour, or we have one planned. Why do you people not give us some ideas or suggestions?"

The government might have someone in there to hear what we are saying just so it can try to counter it, but obviously it does not pay much attention to the suggestions we have been making on a regular basis. I think some of them are sound. We have made suggestions on the bridging provisions, to get some of the older workers out of heavy jobs in the labour force and open up some jobs for younger people. We have suggested programs that mean something for young people in Ontario. We have suggested programs that advocate more self-sufficiency so we do less importing than we now do in Ontario. We do not see any action.

I looked with interest at the OFL's brief when it met with the government; in it there were a number of suggestions. Some of them are tried and true; the charges that they were not giving any specific proposals do not hold water, because in their brief they talk about labour-intensive

projects such as construction of highways and public housing. I dealt at some length with public housing; certainly there is employment as well as a social need to be served if we get on with that and we are not doing it.

There have been suggestions concerning the jobs that are needed in services; the housing incentives; the commitment to reforestation, particularly in northern Ontario, with communities solely dependent on the pulp and paper industry; the construction of chronic care facilities; accelerated plans for new transit systems—Oshawa-Hamilton is an example, but it is not much good if the route the government wants to go for its purposes is one that nobody else in the city wants; and the protection of jobs in the auto industry, which is crucial to the manufacturing industry and Ontario itself.

**3:50 p.m.**

This party has raised, time and time again, the need for Canadian content legislation in the automotive industry. For those who accuse us of being simply protectionists or being away off base, we keep trying to tell them that some of their own friends, certainly in the auto parts industry, have come out very strongly in support of content legislation. The government has not heard any arguments from the basic steel industry on it; it certainly has the union and the workers on side.

This in itself can be one of the key answers to keeping the industrial and manufacturing base in the province going until we can take a serious look at what we are facing with respect to the change in work in this province; and there are going to be some drastic changes. It is one of the things that will give us some time, some bridging in current jobs in Ontario.

An excellent little booklet was put out that I would recommend to all members on the Tory side of the House. Undoubtedly it will not change them if this is not the direction their government wants to go, but at least they might have to take a look at some of the facts and figures and some of the arguments that are in this booklet put out by the United Auto Workers.

They point out that directly related employment in this sector is about 220,000 jobs, and that a number of the companies have only a small portion of their jobs in the auto sector but depend on their automotive base for their strength and, in many cases, for their survival in industry.

"The major auto makers buy parts and services from more than 13,000 companies in Canada. Almost 10,000 of these businesses are smaller companies which employ fewer than 100 em-



ployees." So we are not talking just about the giants here; we are talking about the base and small industries that reach into many of the small towns around Ontario, as well as the many plants we have in the automotive parts industry in the Toronto and Hamilton areas.

"The Canadian auto industry accounts for half of Canada's trade in manufactured goods and about 60 per cent of our exports." It is an interesting sidelight, one of the things we found out in the plant shutdown committee, that some of the branch plants and some of the small automotive suppliers were set up to supply only the Canadian market and were forbidden under the licensing arrangements or the agreements they had with their head office companies to do any exporting; that was forbidden. It was not that they could not necessarily compete, but they were not allowed to do it. If we could free it up a bit, we would probably have the ability to do an awful lot more exporting in that field.

"We have the world's seventh largest market for vehicles. We have an abundance of raw materials essential to the industry. We have efficient feeder industries in materials processing and semi-finished goods such as steel, petrochemical and metal rolling.

"Canada's transportation infrastructure and service system is well equipped to handle the requirements of automotive manufacturing. Most important of all"—and these are the people I am concerned about—"we have a skilled labour force and labour costs"—this sometimes is hard for other members in this House to realize—"that are really competitive with most industrialized nations in the world."

We have been relatively competitive in the auto industry and we have significant potential advantages. Why can we not get our fair share of jobs by just leaving development to the free market? Two or three of the key paragraphs in this document come up next.

"First, the reality is that markets are not really free. Most industrialized countries and many developing countries consider the automotive industry to be a central part of their economies." They are now realizing what we are letting slip and should have been realizing a long time ago, so they have developed a range of policies to maintain and strengthen their own industries; policies such as government ownership, grants and subsidies and trade restrictions. If other countries have a policy to guarantee themselves jobs but we do not, it is clear we will not get our share of jobs in the province.

It would be interesting when we are thinking about the future of work, when we are thinking about whether or not there is a case to be made for content legislation in the automotive industry, to take a look at five or six other countries in the world.

If we take a look at Italy, imports are kept to 2,000 units, about 0.2 per cent of the market; in France, Japanese imports are kept to three per cent of the market; in the United Kingdom, Japanese imports are kept to 10 per cent or 11 per cent of the market; in West Germany, Japanese imports are kept to 10 per cent of the market; and in Spain, tariffs are 50 per cent and there are content laws and limits on imports.

If we take a look at Mexico—and incidentally, as I tried to point out in this House, our lack of policies is the major reason we are losing Allen Industries in another couple of months; it has already bought the entire plant at Chihuahua, Mexico, to transfer that operation—Mexico has tariffs of 100 per cent, content laws and a limit on imports.

Australia has tariffs of more than 50 per cent, imports are limited to 20 per cent and there is content legislation. That should clearly tell us that all of these countries have decided the auto sector is pretty doggone key to their economies. It used to be very key to our economy and we used to have a pretty good run at it, but we are losing it more rapidly than many sectors.

We are going to have to take a look at what we do in this sector. Canada has the potential to have a strong industry but we remain vulnerable, given our branch plant type of economy and the worldwide restructuring that has taken place. If we do not introduce policies such as Canadian content, we are going to be in serious trouble.

What is content and what does it do? I want to finish with a few final comments on this because I think it is food for some thought and discussion among members of this House. Content basically means corporations must make a commitment to jobs in Canada. This commitment depends on how much they sell in Canada. In an uncertain world, content is a way of guaranteeing jobs for Canadian workers and markets for their commodities. Content is a way to guarantee such jobs but also for trade to continue.

Corporations meeting the content provisions by sourcing in Canada or exporting from Canada can freely import into Canada, so it can work both ways, but we have at least a guarantee that some of the jobs are going to stay here. If corporations are free to move jobs unilaterally wherever they please, the pressure is increased



on workers, communities and governments to compete for jobs, to make concessions in living standards, to lower corporate taxes while increasing personal taxes and to increase corporate subsidies while decreasing community services.

Does that not sound familiar to members as being exactly what has been going on across this country, whether it is in industry in the jobs, in the tax structures or in the services to people? Content is an alternative to such inequities. It puts the focus on corporate commitments to Canada, rather than our commitments to the corporations. What is wrong with a bit of commitment to Canada for a change?

We simply have to take a serious look at a major answer to part of our problems, as well as the other things I have raised and we have raised; and that is content legislation here in Canada. It is not just the auto workers or those in allied industries crying out for the jobs, it is many of the manufacturers themselves. It is the steel industry now. It is a number of responsible citizens in this province. I see nothing whatsoever in the throne speech that deals with the question of whether we should even be paying any attention to it, let alone taking any action on the issue.

The lack of any real action on pensions and older and younger workers probably were the two things that provoked me as much as anything. I want to point out we had a committee that looked at pensions. We have had private members' bills in this House. I introduced one three or four years ago that went through this House as a private member's bill. We had a debate on it. It called for vesting when transferring pensions and some kind of a central agency to handle it.

There seemed to be a commitment from members on all sides of the House to at least some of those points. We have seen absolutely nothing happen on it. We have had no action on it. One of the tragedies is the situation we are in with regard to the inadequacy of private pensions, but we are not even doing the few things in terms of transfer rights there, early vesting and so on, that would improve what there is in private industry. We are also taking a dog-in-the-manger attitude that says we cannot afford to take a look at the answer, and that is improvements in the public pension in this province and in this country of ours.

There is a lack of any government initiative—mostly federal but the provincial government could sure act as the catalyst to move the feds if it decided for once to come on side in that issue—to do something for the people in the province.

4 p.m.

I want to point out people do start to react. I have been amazed at the number of people who have been phoning in and attending meetings at the Eaton Co. For example, including right here in downtown Toronto, I am told it is not hundreds but now thousands who are phoning. It is not just because they finally broke the dam in Brampton and not because they finally started moving in the St. Catharines operation. What has been happening there is the Eaton Co., like so many of the big ones, had been putting more and more of its workers, some of them long-time, long-service workers, on part-time and short-time jobs.

They began to lose many of the benefits they had in the operation. It has involved a vast number of the workers. All of a sudden, loyal workers who would never take a look at a union—and it is unfortunate to have to say that, but previously they would not have—are saying: "This company is taking us to the cleaners. Its interests are not our interests. They are not protecting our security, our jobs and our hours. We have to get by on less." They do not see anybody worrying about it in the Tory government across the way.

What is the obvious result? They are saying in desperation, "What can we do? Is there an avenue?" Something most people a matter of months ago thought could not happen is in the process of happening today.

With all these issues, as the older people, the poor people, the young people and the pensioners begin to realize that as long as the Tories are riding high in the polls they do not have to do anything about them and are not doing anything about them, I suspect these people are going to start getting angry when those issues start getting out. If anything is wrong in Ontario in what is happening with people, it is they have not yet decided to get angry, and I mean really angry.

Heaven help us when they do. I think it is going to come. I am sorry to have to say it, but I think it is probably what has to happen in Ontario. There has to be an understanding that any recovery, if indeed there is any recovery in the economy, is not benefiting ordinary people in Ontario.

I want to bring to a close the few comments I have by mentioning briefly the task force on work, people and technological change I had the privilege to serve on in my own caucus. We have called our report *The Future of Work*. Rather than go through the many fine points of that task force report—and I point out it is not even party policy, although I hope a lot of it will become



resolutions at our coming convention—I would say it is one of the first serious efforts to lay out the size of the problem, some of the potential problems, some of the possible solutions and to start in a hurry—I stress in a hurry—a real debate on what is happening to the future of work in this province. It is a serious and honest effort to do exactly that.

When one gets some of the evidence given to us as we travelled across the province, one realizes how ridiculous was the response of the Treasurer when the press asked him about it in the scrum. He said: “I really reject the New Democratic Party. All they are looking at is a downturn in employment. They are not being realistic. We are looking at the fantastic and potential benefits of the spinoff industries.” I would really like to have the Treasurer of this province tell us what he is thinking of in terms of the spinoff industries.

It reminds me of the old comment: how many different kinds of underarm deodorant can one make and sell? What is happening is we are facing a change that is probably more dramatic than any lifestyle or work force change we have ever seen before in the history of the province.

Maybe I can illustrate it best with one small case that really gripped all of us on the committee, and there were a number of cases. I want to use a few of the figures given to us, not by New Democrats but by some of the experts we talked to about this issue, some of the professional people and the university people we talked to on this issue. I also want to use as the most effective argument I can what has happened at Glendale Spinning Mills in Hamilton.

It is a mill that employed almost 300 workers three short years ago, an old mill that went into receivership, that could not compete. It had been there a long time and had a good reputation, but it was an old mill. It was a mill the fire department in Hamilton probably would have shut down many times because there were fires almost every week in the cotton dust and because of the bad conditions in that mill. It was a mill where the work was heavy for the women and heavy for the men. But it was a mill that had been part of Hamilton and the textile industry for many years.

After it went into receivership, some efforts were made. There was some federal funding. The new manager is a chap from the Philippines. They decided to make it a state-of-the-art mill in Ontario. If one goes into that mill today—and it might help to drive the message home to some of the Tories if they would do what we did and go

through the mill—one will find three sets of machinery in operation.

The old machinery, which is still what exists in many plants in Canada, is sitting in basements. It is a bit ironic and sad to have the management say, “We have sold all this old equipment to Guatemala, but it is really costing us more to pack and ship it than we are getting for it.” Poor Guatemala is one of the things I have to say about that operation.

When one goes into that mill, what does one find? One will find one line of machinery with about 240 spindles on it producing at about 5,000 revolutions per minute with manual load and unload of the spindles of thread when they are finished. One will find side by side a second line of machinery with about 80 spindles running at almost 19,000 rpms with automatic load and unload. In a separate room in the plant is a third line of machinery that is different entirely, where they have eliminated the entire second operation.

One goes from the raw cotton to cotton thread about the size of what one would knit with. Then one goes through the second operation, and it is down to the size of thread. The third operation in that plant takes the raw cotton from the large size and eliminates the middle operation entirely. It travels as fast or faster than the 19,000 rpm, 800-spindle machine. It takes the cotton balls off the end and packages them. Two people run it.

When we were there management told us proudly they were operating that plant with 108 workers as against almost 300 and they were producing a lot more. They also told us they were now competitive, and I can only take their word for it. But even in Hong Kong and Taiwan, in third world countries, they are now charging about \$7 or \$7.40 for a big spindle of cotton thread. They also told us that when they finished the total operation, it would be operating with 54 employees with even better production.

Here we have fantastically increased production. We have a much better mill. It is cleaner and easier to operate. The employees love the working conditions. There are no more fires and there are big vacuums on every machine. It is a lovely operation. It is a situation in which we should be happy to have workers working. It is not the most dramatic example by any means, but it is a clear example of where there are now 108 and very shortly there will be 54 workers achieving fantastically increased production compared to what 300 did.

The serious question I have is backed up by a little piece I saw in Microbits. This publication may be assisted by the technology industry or by



government financing, I am not sure. The last edition had three little paragraphs at the beginning which pointed out there was a survey going on, to be completed very shortly by this government, which would point out some of the results of microtechnology beginning to move into the industrial sector.

They went on to say that the initial survey showed that a large percentage of the firms had increased production and lowered costs. It was fantastic. I think 83 per cent showed a smaller labour force and labour costs and all showed increased production. Obviously, that is exactly what has happened in the Glendale Spinning Mills situation.

The question I am posing to this House and to the government members in particular is, what in blazes are we going to do when this kind of change in manufacturing is rushing at us like an express train, let alone what may happen in the service or office industries? What are going to do with the 250 people who are no longer able to work in that mill?

The company has increased production, increased profit and has a better and cleaner operation. It is probably less costly in everything, right down to Workers' Compensation Board claims in that plant. The workers who are left are certainly happier. But what are we going to do with the 250 who are no longer there? That is a pattern that will be repeated. It begs a question I know a Tory does not like to think about. Who controls this kind of technology and how do we do the job of distribution in terms of the benefits that accrue as a result of this kind of change?

**4:10 p.m.**

When we talked to 13 professionals at a roundtable session in Waterloo University, what was one of the things they told us? They told us that the percentage of our labour force in manufacturing—and I have had two or three different sets of figures, but it is now in the range of 24 to 25 per cent—could be as low as eight to 10 per cent by as early as 1992. As I say, there were a number of people there and they were not necessarily ours.

I shot those figures at Dr. A. C. Frost, head of the microtechnology centre at McMaster University, when we were talking to the people there just to ask, "Do they shock you?" I said: "Some of the people we have talked to around Ontario have told us we could be looking at as low as eight or 10 per cent of our work force involved in manufacturing in this province in as short a time

as eight years down the road. Is there any truth to it? Do you accept those figures?"

His answer to me was pretty straightforward. He said: "Nobody can tell you for sure. We do not know what is going to happen in terms of service industries."

We know that is one of the things that has saved us until now, but we also know it is one of the areas this government is certainly not letting expand, if it is not actually cutting back. I do not know how many more people we can put into McDonald's hamburger jobs in Ontario."

He also said that while they could not tell us exactly what was going to happen, there would likely be a reduction. He had heard the figure put as low as four to five per cent, never mind eight to 10 per cent. Nobody knows, but almost everybody agrees we are facing a rather dramatic change in what we know as work in this province and in this country.

I ask the Tories once again, what in the throne speech says anything about this problem? Do they not want to face it? I understand from my sources they are now talking about setting up their own task force on microtechnology or on what may happen. It had better be done damned quickly. There had better be an honest commitment to look at how much of a problem we are facing and how we are going to deal with it.

Is the answer some new jobs we do not know of today? Is the answer a shorter work week? That is probably part of it. I do not think there is any single answer. A whole package of answers is going to be needed.

Is it in doing away with little steps such as planned overtime? I get into arguments with some of my friends in the automotive field, but one would be surprised at the amount of planned overtime that still goes on in some of the automobile plants. Do we make a serious commitment and say, "We know we cannot stop emergency overtime in crisis situations, but we had better start taking a look at whether we will allow planned overtime"?

Do we take a look at a reduction? Not tomorrow. We cannot do it that fast. But if there is the growth in productivity shown in the first bit of the report in the last issue of Microbits, a combination of productivity growth and a cut in hours over the next four, five, six or seven years could well bring us down to a 32-hour week.

I do not know how much of the answer that is. I personally happen to think it is a good chunk of it. Those are some of the things we have to take a look at.



I think there is real merit in taking a look at workers. I mentioned two or three times how desperate the situation was for the Consolidated-Bathurst workers. We are finding out that at 55 years of age, when they have been 25 years in a mill, it is too late to send them to try to get upgrading or new skills. It is not working. Even the 18 or 28 who are involved in it at this moment in Hamilton are not happy with it. My figures are from last Thursday. They do not believe it is helping them. Some of them are staying in the upgrading program because it is the only way they can still continue to collect unemployment insurance. It is not an answer at 55 or 60 years of age.

Is the answer that we have to work out a sabbatical such as some professors have? Should they be banking credits where they work so that every fourth or fifth year they can, if they want, spend a year in a retraining program and receive their pay for it? We are going to have to develop something that says workers are able to retrain several times in their lifetimes. We must not get shot down because of potential costs. We will have to take a look at what we can do to build up and put in place a program that allows this kind of change.

We have to do all these things. We are obviously also going to have to involve the workers themselves one hell of a lot more in decision-making. The answer today was totally inadequate. The president of a big local such as the one at Inco in Port Colborne went in to ask management, the guy they deal with: "These are the rumours going around the plant. Is there any truth to them?"

One can think what his respect for them will be from this day on. He was told: "Absolutely not. We will have nothing but the normal summer layoffs." The next day he was called in and the announcement was made that 500 workers were out permanently.

We will have to involve the workers more quickly and much more in the decisions that are made. We will have to challenge seriously what have become entrenched as management rights in contracts. That does not mean we want the right to involve and change anything and everything that happens in a plant. It means when a major technological change is going to affect the workers, their livelihood and the community they work in, they are going to have to have some say, rather than just being told, even if it is a Saturday or several weeks in advance, exactly what is going to happen.

We are going to have to look at interim measures. I think the content legislation is only an interim measure. I suspect that is the way a number of countries will handle it. I was talking the other day to one of the journalists who covered our task force report. He told me about one of the things that really fascinated him—he had been over in Japan a few months ago and had been following up some of his investigations. From what he was picking up, the Japanese were on the verge, within the next three or four years, of moving the entire assembly of automobiles out of Japan. They were looking at Pakistan in particular, but at one or two other locations as well. They are obviously going to have that in place, if they are thinking that far down the road and are able to do it, because of the mechanics of scale, cost and the new technology.

Has any of this crossed the minds of government members? Are they taking a look at what the heck they have to do in terms of the future of work and workers in this province? I do not see it in the throne speech. As I said when I started, I am hoping we may get a better picture when we see the budget presentation. There is certainly nothing in the throne speech to give any hope at all to workers, poor people, older people, pensioners and young unemployed workers in this province.

The government is going to be held responsible for the reaction to that. I think it is going to come sooner rather than later, and the government has one hell of a lot to be held responsible for. The throne speech is totally inadequate.

**Mr. Cousens:** Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank you and all honourable members of the House for selecting me for the fourth consecutive year to be the deputy chairman of the committees of the whole House. I have found it a great honour to be of service to the House and to have had the opportunity of working with the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and the member for Durham East (Mr. Cureatz).

It is a tremendous way to learn the workings of the Legislature, to sit in that chair and be as nonpartisan as possible, to look at both sides of the House and try to maintain a sense of equity and fairness, a sense of humour and all those things one learns by doing the job. Again, I thank all honourable members who elected me to this great office for one more year, or at least for this session.

Interjections.

**Mr. Cousens:** I am fully forgiving towards those who did not vote for me. I will try to be



totally nonpartisan. I had more trouble from the fellows on this side of the House than I did from the others.

**An hon. member:** So it should be.

**Mr. Cousens:** I also want to congratulate the Deputy Speaker on the way he is fulfilling his job. I wish him continued great success as he sits in the chair. I know he takes his work very seriously.

The other day, as I was sitting in the chair, I had the pleasure of listening to the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon). I was very impressed by the comments he had to make on an issue that crosses the boundaries of all parliamentarians, federally and provincially. That has to do with the whole situation of human rights in the Soviet Union and the need to support the refuseniks, those people in Russia who would like to have visas to emigrate to another land. What the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk had to say was a testimony to what we as parliamentarians and legislators should be doing all the time.

We are so fortunate to live in this land with such freedoms and the luxury of being able to vote and select those who are going to represent us, to move from province to province and land to land and to be able to make a living. We have so many freedoms, such as the freedom to have a job and to have an education. When I think of Shcharansky and some others in the Soviet Union whose rights have been abrogated, who have no sense of freedom, I am indeed proud to know there are members from our Legislature who are taking this very seriously.

**4:20 p.m.**

When I think of the small committee we have, with the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt), the member for Beaches-Woodbine (Ms. Bryden) and the member for Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg) as the three chairpeople who are responsible for this all-party committee on Soviet Jewry, I am pleased to be part of that. If there is anything we should be doing now, it is to continue to promote the needs of those people in the Soviet Union who would like to have something of the freedom we enjoy.

Just today, I received in the mail something from the leader of the third party. He too was sharing some information he had received. There are two things we have to do. We have to put pressure on the Soviets. I think the kind of thing the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk did is a symbol of that, by going there and taking the time, as a non-Jew and as one who has a deep concern. But also we must share our concern

with the refuseniks so that we, on the outside, are able to let them know we care.

I do not think we should let up on that vigil. In many lands throughout the world there are people who do not have anything close to what we have. We should never say our responsibility is only for Ontario or for our ridings. Our responsibility crosses the boundaries of all colours, races, religions and lands. When we are talking about these needs, we should do so in a genuine way.

I commend very genuinely the remarks that were given to us the other day by the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk. I personally appreciated the fact that he could be there, as my representative as well, in going to the Soviet Union to make the kind of commitment and representation he would have made for us.

I also have one other little sidelight that ties into the whole throne speech. It has to do with an association of high-technology companies situated in the northeast part of Metro Toronto and south York region. They have formed an association known as the York Technology Association. It is an association of 100 or so companies and has senior executives represented in it. The president of MDS Canada and I, as co-chairmen of this association, listen to what governments are trying to do, how governments are trying to serve the business community and how they are trying to serve the people of this province.

As an association, we have been impressed at the willingness of this province's government to work with the association. Typical of the interchange and dialogue that take place, for instance, is the way in which the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) will be meeting with the association prior to his budget to discuss some of the facets that would pertain to high technology.

The dialogue that has to go on among business, labour and government has to be accelerated. When the member for Hamilton East (Mr. Mackenzie) was talking—

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Not one-sided.

**Mr. Cousens:** It cannot be one-sided, for sure. I ended up agreeing with him more today than I had thought I would, because when one starts hearing about people losing their jobs, not being informed and not having a sharing of information, having the kind of surprise the member for Hamilton East was talking about, it is the kind of thing we should all be working on together to try to build bridges rather than fences. We should be working to have a better understanding of the needs of all people in this province. Again, that is incumbent on each one



of us so that we are not just two groups of an élite and the poor.

Unfortunately, if we allow it to continue, we are going to have the very rich and the very poor, and nothing in between. We can help to be brokers to build a stronger Canada if we can get rid of some of the labour disputes, the labour uncertainty and allow people to have more trust and honesty in working together.

**Mr. Grande:** Let us see some action.

**Mr. Cousens:** The member is seeing action. There are the kinds of dialogue our ministers are having with business and the way in which our government is trying to set an example by running this government with fairness to its people; affirmative action programs are one example. There are many ways in which this government is trying to set a good example. Its own efforts at fiscal restraint are also an example to other people. In the last few years, our restraint program has given people in the outside world a sense of knowing that this government is caring.

As I see the Ontario government's position now, we are moving into a very good age, but it has not been easy. In the three years I have been sitting in seat 55 at Queen's Park and looking out at the world from this perspective, I have seen much improvement. I see the way in which we are gaining optimism again as employment improves, as opportunities improve and as the government is able to give new proactive initiatives to help make this land of ours prosper even more.

As a government, we have a great deal to be proud of, and I just wish the people with the gloom and doom could put that away and start looking at the good things that are going on. Things are not all black.

**Mr. Gillies:** Start with the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel), for instance.

**Mr. Cousens:** We could start with anyone, because the fact is that there is much that is happening to be pleased with; however, we have to be careful and not become too simplistic in our thinking and say: "Hey, there is going to be an easy answer. There is going to be an easy road out." There is not. Nothing is going to be easy when one is talking about an economy as fragile and as dependent upon international forces and federal forces as ours. Therefore, we can only do so much. But as long as we are doing as much as we can, then we as a government can say to the people who elected us, "We have done our best."

I am pleased to see the kind of things our government is trying to do. We are not taking this responsibility lightly. We are taking a very

serious look at ways in which we can address the problems that face the future.

Some people would say, as we move into the post-industrial age, there will be less opportunity for the working class. I am afraid that will be the case unless we make every effort as a government to provide opportunities for these people to learn new trades, learn new businesses, move to new jobs, find new opportunities and get into the advanced technology of things.

We are not going to be in a world where we are just trying to serve hamburgers to people. We want to serve them with products and services that can make for a better lifestyle and a better way of living. Certainly, that is the kind of thing our government is trying to do.

**Mr. Martel:** That is why we need more robots in the plants.

**Mr. Swart:** That is why there are more and more on the poverty line.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Cousens:** Ontario is really part of the world picture where we are seeing raw materials rising in cost. Raw materials can be dug out of the ground, served up and taken to refineries in Third World countries much cheaper than they can be processed in our own land. We are finding some of our own opportunities being taken away because of competition around the world. We are seeing our own opportunities eroded as other countries are automating. They are moving to new, sophisticated equipment to solve their problems, to do things more efficiently and more effectively, while many of our own business people are waiting and perhaps waiting too long.

We are seeing what Japan has done with the automotive industry. Somewhat late, General Motors of Canada Ltd., Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd., American Motors (Canada) Inc. and other North American companies began to see there were other ways of doing the same kind of thing. For example, a car could still be made but could be made a better-quality product; it could be made more quickly, more cheaply and new things could be put into it.

As well, we are seeing changes taking place within the business community which we, as politicians, should recognize. We are seeing the emergence of new small- and medium-sized firms, the kind of outgrowth that has come from Northern Telecom Canada Ltd. through the spinoff of many small companies because of the ideas of people who wanted to go out and start up their own businesses. In doing so, they have been able to establish a whole new series of small high-technology firms. We could be seeing this



kind of spinoff from all the large corporations in Canada, especially if we provided the incentive and opportunity for them to do so.

With all these changes, we are seeing the opportunity for our government to give leadership and to generate new employment. This is a major thrust of our throne speech which I was delighted to see for young people and for retraining so people can move into opportunities where they can find some fulfilment for their own lives.

**Mr. Grande:** Is the government providing the substance for those needs? If so, show us.

**Mr. Cousens:** There is substance behind the speech, and the honourable member is going to see substance in the future as this speech comes into action, as he sees the budget and other things we are doing.

**Mr. Gillies:** He will not recognize it when he sees it. He has made a career out of talking. That is all the members do over there.

**Mr. Foulds:** Where are the jobs after the counselling and training? Come on, get serious.

**Mr. Cousens:** I do not think anyone on this side of the House is not serious, and I do not think anyone on this side of the House does not take his responsibilities seriously because the matter we are talking about has to do with the future of our province and of our country. What we want to do is see that it is not only strong but also stronger, that we are not only rich but richer as well, that those who have, can have more, that there are no have-nots—no have-not companies, no have-not people—and that everybody in this province can share in the opportunity that is there for them.

4:30 p.m.

It is not easy, however. When we start seeing the way this province and this country are doing in comparison to the world picture, we had better realize that we are living with a very high standard but we are not necessarily producing and generating the kinds of wealth and resources that we can.

Interjections.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for York Centre has the floor.

**Mr. Cousens:** There are many examples of it. If we look at the last 20 years, there was a survey of the 500 most important innovations that were introduced in six countries between 1953 and 1973; it indicated that, of the 500 innovations developed during that time frame, only eight—

**Mr. Gillies:** Not one was from the New Democrats.

**Mr. Cousens:** I would not say that; I am saying that only eight of them came from Canada, and that shows there is a problem.

We have to do everything we can to promote the development of new products, new thinking and new ways of doing business. Unfortunately, many people think it can be done in just a short time; they think you can quickly invest some money and quickly get the output. You cannot do that; it takes years to develop new products, new designs and new adaptations.

The problem with investors is that they say they want to invest money, but they want their money out next year, when in fact we are talking about seven or nine years before one starts reaping the harvest from the investment one makes today.

**Mr. Stokes:** You are saying we lack a favourable economic climate.

**Mr. Cousens:** What we are saying here is that in Canada we have not been developing, innovating and doing the kinds of things we can and should be doing.

I point to the example of Japan, and this was something that had to shock a lot of people when a jurisdiction is as far behind as we are in our use of robots. We are not going to try to have robots do everything, but it is a factor. When you start realizing that when you have something like 23.2 robots for every 10,000 manufacturing employees, as they do in Japan, whereas in Canada we have 1.4 robots for the same number of employees, you realize we are not using this kind of technology as much as we could. Certainly the Japanese are using it; we too should be looking at the ways in which this high-technology approach to doing business can be used and considered.

**Mr. McClellan:** How many cars is a robot going to buy?

**Mr. Cousens:** Yes. But we are not going to be able to buy the cars unless we are in a position to be able to afford them, unless we have people who can develop them, work on them and make a quality product. On the world market, we are not just talking about building for Canada any more.

**Mr. McClellan:** This should go over well in Brantford.

**Mr. Cousens:** The honourable member should not forget that we in Ontario have to take advantage of all the technological innovations we can to help promote the business opportunities this province can have, not only here but also throughout the world; and we as a province should be doing everything we can to establish the environment for that kind of approach.



**Mr. McClellan:** If you can ever get the robots to vote for you, you will do fine.

**Mr. Cousens:** Maybe the member does not have any comprehension of the power these machines can have, in the same way as the steam engine had for pulling the railways. There are so many things that can be done if we take advantage of them.

One can put the curtains on, hide under a bushel and not try to do anything. Our province happens to be looking at ways in which we can go into the 21st century and be successful and more successful. We have a success record; we are not just going to let it sit. We are going to take every chance we can with the investment so these firms can expand and grow. It is not taking a chance to say, "Let us not be the last to join the lineup."

Interjections.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for York Centre has the floor.

**Mr. Cousens:** There is a tremendous need for the government, the entrepreneurs and the business people of our province to look at ways of facing the challenges that the 1980s really have.

We are seeing it in our trade ratio. When we look at the way trade in Ontario has gone down, we see we have kept our percentage but our world share of trade has not increased; in fact, it has gone down, it has declined. We in this province should not allow that. We should be finding ways of enhancing that opportunity and building it into the way we are doing business to promote more trade.

These are challenges we have. We have to look at the way other countries have lower wage rates. They have higher productivity. What can we do to increase our productivity? We have to look at this and we have to build a climate such that the workers, the business people, the government and all levels of our society will work together to achieve greater successes.

This is our challenge for the 1980s. It is a challenge to use our people and our resources to identify the opportunity and to do everything we can to make it happen. This is where government has an important role to play, to help establish an environment for business to succeed and to prosper.

**Mr. McClellan:** And for robots. Do not forget the robots. It is a good environment for robots.

**Mr. Cousens:** We might get a robot. It probably could do a better job than the member in some of the things he does. That would be going

too far; I do not know what he does and no one else does.

What we really want to do is to see whether we can do something for the economy and for the world we are living in and not pass judgement on everything all the time without at least looking at what it can do for us. Maybe part of the prejudgement that some people have is the kind of thing that makes it difficult for other people to give it a try.

Our government should be in a position to establish a climate and a good environment for business. The opposition thinks money is going to come from the people all the time, but the business community can provide opportunities for employees, for trade, for so many things. We should be helping to provide that environment. We are competing on a world market for our share of steel, autos, textiles, rubber and petrochemicals—industries that have traditionally been the backbone of this province. What can we do?

**An hon. member:** Farm machinery.

**Mr. Cousens:** And farm machinery. There are so many others.

**An hon. member:** Welfare.

**Mr. Cousens:** Welfare is not an industry we really want to start promoting, although we will support welfare.

**Mr. Gillies:** It is over there.

**Mr. Cousens:** I see it as more than that. The government has to understand we have a major role to play in bringing our industries up to the level established by our competitors in other parts of the world. Our government realizes this can be best achieved by playing a supportive role rather than becoming a direct interventionist. Government cannot run everything. It cannot run all that much all that well.

**Mr. Foulds:** This government cannot run anything.

**Mr. Cousens:** Fine, but if members opposite had their way, they would have government running the whole world. The reason there happens to be a Tory party is that we also believe in the free enterprise system; there should be an opportunity and a climate for someone to make an honest dollar outside government, and government should be doing what it can to allow people to make that dollar—

**Mr. Foulds:** There are only two things wrong with the free enterprise system: it ain't free and there is no enterprise, especially when you are an example.



**Mr. Cousens:** Not that there is a dishonest dollar, associated with what the honourable member is talking about.

We should be in a position as a government to continue to do the kinds of things that are referred to in the throne speech, to help promote more research and development, to help promote more technological innovation and to help have more diffusion of this innovation across the marketplace.

**Mr. Foulds:** Who is going to pay for it?

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Cousens:** We should be promoting research and development and technological innovation, having more diffusion of these services and allowing the human resources that can make it happen to have an active part in it. I am impressed with what our government has already done and the commitment our government already has to the support of these fundamental objectives of having a climate and an environment conducive to successful business.

**Mr. Martel:** You have had 40 years. Where is the environment?

**Mr. Cousens:** It is a 40-year environment that has been built up on the trust that now exists between the business people and the government and the sense of knowing the government is there supporting the fundamental right to make an honest dollar.

As we look at the whole need for research and development, I am impressed at what our government is trying to do for small companies and large companies. We have the Ontario Research Foundation, which specializes in industrial problem-solving through the provision of technical services, including research and development to small firms. We have the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development, which has done a great deal in support of our universities. Eleven universities have received matching grants totalling \$4.3 million for contracts received from the private sector.

The government says: "We know there is a resource there. We have the University of Toronto. We have Waterloo. We have significant educational institutions. Let us use those institutions to develop more. Let us use the resources, the minds and the people who are there to turn out more advanced products."

On Friday of last week, I met with a constituent whose company is involved in a high-technology product developed in the University of Toronto laboratories. He is now in the process of marketing it worldwide. There is no

one else who can do the kind of process they have. It is patented, it is exclusive and it is something they are doing very successfully. That had its origins in our educational institutions.

**4:40 p.m.**

In the 1981-82 fiscal year the Ontario government spent more than \$79 million in natural science and engineering research and development, more than double that spent in 1974-75.

As a province, our whole approach to capital funding has been very much in support of companies that want to get out and try something new. The small business development corporation program has been a tremendously popular tax measure that has allowed people to get involved.

I do not know how many members opposite would refer businesses in their communities to the Ontario Development Corp. It has been able to back up a great number of companies in the province that could not have found their funding from banks or through private enterprise, and yet the government of Ontario has been willing to give them the kind of support they needed.

I am pleased as well when I look at what has been happening with the Innovation Development for Employment Advancement Corp. The IDEA Corp. represents a real and substantial commitment by the Ontario government, and it exemplifies how the public and private sectors can work together.

Established in 1981 by the provincial government, the IDEA Corp. is responsible for encouraging and financing technological innovation and its commercial development in Ontario. To this extent, the corporation seeks to bring together the research capabilities and capacities of the public sector with those of the commercial and industrial sectors.

The corporation is the central element in the government's plan to enhance long-term economic growth and employment. The IDEA Corp. was originally provided with funds totalling \$107 million over a period of five years and has been given a mandate to become self-financing by its sixth year of operation.

Its funds are channelled into a number of different technological funds as well as two wholly owned funds: the research investment fund and the IDEA innovation fund. These funds are used to finance joint ventures in the five broad technological areas of biological and medical, chemical and process, information systems, machine automation and microelectronics.

These funds, operated by independent managers from the private sector, are open to



investors and are expected to attract funds of four to six times their original value. The research investment fund channels money into projects during the early stages of commercial development. The innovation fund is used for investment in a broad range of projects and ventures. Up to December 1983, the IDEA Corp. had invested \$7.5 million in high-tech development.

The overriding principle is that we will continue to work with projects that need help, and this province is going to be prepared on an ongoing basis to help innovation happen. Research and development is a starting point, and we as a province realize that; it does not just happen without having some good planning and thinking going into it.

A part of that environment that our province believes in is the whole business of innovation. Through the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program there is a great deal of assistance that can be given to those projects that have already been developed but need to be expanded, tried and experimented with.

Our province has been active in support of Telidon; Teleguide; the Institute for Hydrogen Systems—we all talk about finding new forms of energy; we are doing that through helping support the hydrogen systems project—the Ontario Centre for Remote Sensing; transit information, communication and control systems; the Canadian education microcomputer, the Icon; the exploration technology development fund. These are projects that are off the ground, they have been developed and proved; now, to get them out into the world, we have this kind of support coming from Ontario.

What we are seeing is that the province, through its Ministry of Industry and Trade, is not living in a vacuum and is not living separate from the real world. We in this province are genuine in our commitment to support business and the use of new technology and new opportunities.

How do we get the business people to use it? That has to be a continuing challenge for any government. As a result of its contacts abroad through its large, expansive force, the government is able to know what is going on in other parts of the world. We are saying, "How can we bring some of those techniques and services into this province so that we too can benefit?"

This is where we have a success story that all parties should be pleased with. That has to do with the six high-tech centres that were established by our government two or three years ago.

As a member ex officio of the board of directors for the Ontario centre for advanced

manufacturing, I know we in Ontario are doing something that is the envy of all the other jurisdictions in this country. In this centre, we are doing something to accelerate the use of high technology in robot computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing.

This is a way in which we as a government are able to set up these centres, not in competition with the rest of the free market but to give business people a chance to come in and see how they can make use of them. We can show them how to use them and help them to start up using them. Then we can have a better chance to compete in the world market. I am impressed at the way our government has done this. What we are able now to do—

**Mr. McClellan:** What about all the displaced workers? The member does not even want to talk about them.

**Mr. Cousens:** I will talk about them. If members look at the board of directors for OCAM, they will see there is a member from the union. He, as well as anybody else, is aware of the expected impact that these are to have. When I was talking to him last week I said, "What do you think of what we are doing in the centres?" He said: "I think it is one of those things that is necessary, we are having to go ahead with it. I think you are being careful and prudent."

**Mr. Foulds:** Nobody denies that.

**Mr. Cousens:** Okay, but the member is just saying, "Do not do it." If the member had his way, he would not do anything. Our government is prepared to do something that counts.

**Mr. Foulds:** You have not even mentioned the human beings who are affected.

**Mr. Cousens:** Implicit to the whole process are the people who run it, and the government.

**Mr. Foulds:** Never mind the process, talk about the people.

**Mr. Cousens:** That is the member's problem. He says, "Never mind the process." I think our government is trying to set up an environment that will lead to a process leading to even greater successes. Our province has enjoyed great success in the past and we are going to maintain the kind of environment for which we will need to have more success in the future. That is going to involve free enterprise, machines, money and people. The whole thing comes together. If it is run by the government, it is not going to succeed, but if we lay down an environment for it so it can run and be successful, then it will be good.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** What do these people do in the meantime?



**Mr. Cousens:** May I suggest to the member that an awful lot is being done in the whole business of sharing the high-technology projects and the development that is taking place in industry with business. I am impressed with what we are doing in the microelectronic centre, in resource machinery, with farm machinery and food processing and in automotive parts.

These are critical examples of where our government is trying to make a significant contribution to the business world in our province. People are coming from other parts of the world to see the kind of leadership we are giving to the business community in this province. It does not just happen. It happens because we make it happen and because we believe in it.

When I talk about our government establishing an environment, I am pleased to see the way in which we are helping finance more research and development. We want to see more innovation come from this province. We want to see the thinkers think, the believers believe, the producers produce; we want to see it happen so that we can become even more successful. We want to see more innovation and we as a government are obviously committed to seeing innovation take place when it is for the good of the province and the good of the people.

As well, we as a province have genuine support for the diffusion and sharing of this technology across the province. It is there to help those companies and the people who need it. The whole thing comes together when one sees the glue and the human resources, and that the government, through our Ministry of Labour and through the kind of commitment we have, is giving leadership to improve relations among all levels of management and workers and government, because by working together we can be even more successful.

I see our province having a significant commitment to human resources because we know it is not going to be done without the people. The richness of Canada is no longer in its natural resources. We may have found Hemlo, we may have some gold deposits, we may have some nickel deposits, we may have some other great riches in the land and on the land, but the richest resource we have in this country is the people who make it up.

**Mr. Stokes:** Only if they are productive; only if they are working.

**4:50 p.m.**

**Mr. Cousens:** Only if they are productive and only if they are working. We have to realize that

we must educate them, help them to be educated, prepare them for the opportunities that can come up. Our province is helping to fund those programs and to make post-secondary institutions more helpful in providing that service to those people who are going to participate in the new advances that will take place in the province.

In 1983-84 alone, a total of \$2.5 billion was spent on post-secondary institutions. The Ontario training incentive program has provided \$60 million in incentives for on-the-job training. A total of \$3.4 million is being spent on employer-sponsored training programs to assist the government, employers and educators in identifying skill requirements at the local level.

What we are really talking about is a government that is committed to helping business and people achieve an even better standard of living. It does not happen by thinking about it; it happens because we are doing something about it. The throne speech points to a government that is behind the society in establishing a climate and an environment that can lead to greater successes.

I am surprised such agony comes from members of the opposition. They should realize that when this government tries to do its job, it is facing up to the facts in an honest way. Possibly all members have reviewed the booklet of the Minister of Treasury and Economics on economic transformation. He is pointing to some of the ways it can be done. Have the members read it, seen the way Canada really is and seen the way we are trying to proceed? If they have not, they should. All members should be looking at the things that are coming from our government. At least they are seeing an honest approach as to how we can face up to the opportunities of the 1980s.

This is the age of the microcomputer, the age of change, the age of opportunity and if we as a government are willing to contribute to that and take part in it, we can participate in a real and full way. I hope we will. I hope we will have a chance to do so for much longer to come, because we are taking it seriously.

As high-technology industry develops in this country and as we establish an even stronger business plan, I hope a climate will develop even more to allow this government to give continued leadership over the long term for the business people, the working class and all the people of the province.

When we have a successful business climate, when businesses are making money, the government makes more money and we can afford the



services we all want to be able to offer more of. It is through this success that we will generate the revenue to do even more with it.

I thank the members for their attention and for the opportunity to participate in the throne speech debate. I look forward to listening to the remarks of all the other members.

**Mr. Grande:** Can the Speaker find the riding?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Hodgson):** I could not find you on the chart; I am sorry.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, I think that means I have been recognized. Thank you for the introduction.

I would like to begin my remarks by thanking the good people of Prescott-Russell, as I do every year when I make my opening remarks in this debate, for having afforded me the opportunity, the privilege and the honour to represent them.

I would like to welcome to the Legislature the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Mr. Villeneuve). He represents a constituency close to the one where I live. I know that because I happened to go into his riding on occasion during the election campaign. He was here a moment ago. He must have stepped out for a while. I want to convey my congratulations and wish him the best of luck. I hope he will be serving the good people of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry at least until the next election. I cannot go any further than that.

There are two main topics I want to talk about today. The first is a subject which is certainly very important to me and that is the Conservative government attack on Prescott-Russell. The second is the linguistic rights of the population of Ontario.

Before doing that, I want to bring to the attention of members a letter that was written to the editor of the *Orléans Express* the other day. I am sure Mr. Speaker, knowing Ontario as well as he does, knows *Orléans* is a community that is shared between the member for Carleton East (Mr. MacQuarrie) and me.

The member for Carleton East and the member for Ottawa South (Mr. Bennett) have taken it upon themselves to be missionaries of the Tory government in Prescott-Russell. They have decided they are going to get me. They are both after my hide. Mind you, both have a majority which is less than mine and maybe they should spend a little bit more time in their own ridings and a little less in mine.

In any case, the member for Carleton East, with his majority of 1,600 votes, spends a whole bunch of time, days and days, in Prescott-Russell, courting the electors there. The member

for Ottawa South usually comes and makes lengthy, long-winded speeches in English to my francophone constituents telling them how they should get rid of me.

I will make my remarks about the member for Carleton East very briefly. He woke up one day, I guess it was on February 23, and picked up the *Orléans Express*. He looked at the paper very carefully from one end to the other, counted the number of times his name was in the paper and how many times his picture appeared. He took out his calculator and came to the brilliant conclusion his picture was not in the newspaper often enough. Would you believe that, Mr. Speaker? So the member took out his pencil and paper and decided he would write a letter to the editor complaining about this. I think I should read the letter to members.

"Dear Sir:

"Several weeks ago, I indicated that I would write a column for your paper on a fortnightly basis. As a government member for Carleton East and a parliamentary assistant to the Attorney General, I felt I would not have the time to write more frequently. Unlike others, I like to handle my own copy.

"I also indicated to you that my connection with, and interest in, the *Orléans* area went back many years"—I believe that. It goes back to the years when he used to be a Liberal. That is a long time ago—"and that the constituency of Carleton East took in much of the greater *Orléans* community. I was, therefore, quite surprised that I had not been contacted earlier. Indeed, it was only after your paper was advised that a government member represented much of *Orléans* community that I was contacted regarding a column."

You see, I had been writing a column in the newspaper for a while and he noticed that mine was there and his was not. That was mainly because he had not telephoned them to tell them he would be willing to write. That is neither here nor there, I suppose. He was offended because he did not have a column in that newspaper, notwithstanding the fact he did not write one.

I continue: "I have heard that you printed (and still do) lengthy missives from a member of one of the opposition parties"—that is a shorthand way of meaning me, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Stokes:** Lengthy missives.

**Mr. Boudria:** "Lengthy missives" is how he described my weekly column—"replete with errors and overstatements, but complete with photograph." How dare the newspaper, the *Orléans Express*, print a picture of an opposition



member and not print a picture of the member for Carleton East? Is it not shameful they would actually do this?

The member never did send in a picture. He had not even sent them a column at that time. I will continue.

"As you know, it is easier to carp and criticize than it is to put forward constructive suggestions. An opposition party, after all, is not charged with the responsibility of governing a large and progressive province.

"Printing a lengthy letter from the member in question," again that is me, "to the Minister of Education relating largely to peripheral issues at the Dunning-Foubert School at about the time (and possibly before) it was received and considered by the minister was, in my opinion, irresponsible and did little to win support at the ministry."

**5 p.m.**

This is interesting. The member is complaining about me writing a letter concerning a school in my riding and he figures that he should have been the one writing about this first. This is the way of thinking of the member for Carleton East and probably the rest of them across the way.

He went on to say: "It did the community no good and was no way to advance the cause of obtaining a much-needed addition to the school. At the request of representatives of the board of education, the mayor of Cumberland and myself had been working quietly for some time to obtain a capital allocation for the addition out of the limited funds available"—No wonder the funds are limited. The way they squander funds on such a variety of things, bicentennials and all, it is small wonder they do not have any money for the schools in my riding. They waste it.

To continue:—"before the member in question became involved and the letter appeared. Although our efforts might have been somewhat hampered, I still have every hope that we'll succeed in having funds allocated—despite strong competition for funding assistance from other centres." So the member for Carleton East is glad to report to the newspaper that he is finally going to succeed in getting my riding the school it wants after I wrote a letter to the minister. That is very good of the member for Carleton East, and I thank him for doing it.

To continue: "All of this leads me to point out that I have, as promised, delivered columns to your heading 'Carleton East Notes.'" This is the title of this weekly report. "Unfortunately, due to what I trust was inadvertence or an oversight, I note that the one which appeared most recently

gave no indication of authorship or even a byline."

They forgot to write his name down. Imagine the poor member for Carleton East writing that article every second week. He is too busy for one every week. Unfortunately, it does not have a picture on it because he did not send them one. Now they even forgot to print his name. Is this not sad?

Let me continue to show how sad the story is. You will cry by the time it is over, Mr. Speaker, if you can believe a member writing to a newspaper complaining he cannot get his picture in it often enough. "From all appearances, it could have been anonymously written." It probably was. "I have not seen the first column so I do not know if it was similarly treated.

"When I first agreed to write a fortnightly column, I expressed the hope that your paper would not be politically biased and that I could expect fair and equal treatment"—This is interesting; he writes a column every two weeks, but he wants this column printed as many times as the column I send to them every week. Presumably, the newspaper should write every second week, "This is a repeat of Bob MacQuarrie's last week's column in case you missed it." I guess this is what he wants the Orléans Express to do. He said:—"in the hope that we could all work together for the betterment of the whole community. I have been doing my part, and a considerable amount has been accomplished."

"Yours very truly, Robert W. MacQuarrie, QC, MPP, Carleton East."

That is the letter the member for Carleton East sent to the Orléans Express, stating that in his view the newspaper is biased because it does not print his picture often enough. I do not think the honourable member thought this would happen, but the newspaper actually printed that darned thing, which is embarrassing for the member. The news editor also responded to it. It is a very short response, which I will take a minute to read.

"As the title we put to your letter says, nobody's perfect...and we are no exception. Like you said, we are not politically biased. We believe we have to offer equal opportunity of expression to all politicians representing Orléans, be they government or opposition. If Orléans was represented by four politicians in Queen's Park, we would try to get four columns similar to yours. This is where a frequent problem arises. Some elected members do not have the time to write columns." Presumably,



that is the problem of the member for Carleton East.

"As a matter of fact, those who do write are a minority in densely populated areas. We knew you represented Carleton East, but we did not know you were willing to write a column until you mentioned it to me during a telephone interview a while back." The newspaper could not print a column the member for Carleton East was not sending to it. That is very logical. "The opposition member you are referring to"—that means me—"came forward and offered to write a column for us on a weekly basis, and we accepted, of course; columns are interesting, they are read. We will try to settle that problem."

"As for the missing byline, my error. I admit I forgot to circle your name on your copy, which would ensure your name was composed along with the rest of the text. Now that we have your photo"—he sent them his picture; is that not nice to know?"—and your byline is typed on to the text, the error will not be repeated.

"Finally, the letter to Education Minister Bette Stephenson was printed eight days after it was sent. We presumed the letter would have reached Dr. Stephenson by then. We are sorry if we were ahead of Canada Post!

"Yves Quinty, News Editor."

That is to describe to members some of the goings-on in eastern Ontario and how some of the government members spend their time. Half of it is spent attacking opposition members in their own constituency, telling them how great it would be if they had a Tory member in the area. Mr. Speaker, look how great the place is, having had Tory representation for the last 31 years in Prescott-Russell, with 20 per cent unemployment and all the other problems we have. That is where electing a Tory member in Prescott-Russell got us.

I do not think the people of Prescott-Russell have to apologize to the member for Carleton East, and certainly not to the member for Ottawa South, for having elected a member who happens to sit in opposition, until the next election, after which we will cross over and those folks over there will cross over here.

I want to spend some time today talking about an issue that is very important to my constituents and, I believe, to the unity of this country. Of course I am going to talk about some of the linguistic problems that are facing Canada today.

I believe a lot of the problems we have arise through a lack of understanding of each other. It has been said in the past that a problem with this country is that the English-speaking people

refuse to remember history and the francophones refuse to forget it. Perhaps that summarizes in a way many of the linguistic happenings and arguments we have today.

If we can go back for a minute to Manitoba, one of the two officially bilingual provinces in this country, that province was made bilingual at the time it joined Confederation. At that time nearly 50 per cent of the population of the province were francophones, and one of their leaders participated in a very deep and bitter struggle, which eventually ended in his execution—a struggle for many things, some of which were the linguistic rights of the population of that province.

Not long after Manitoba joined our country through an act of the legislature of that province, the rights of the francophone minority were dismantled; we all know that. This happened in a province that at the time of Confederation had a population that was almost 50 per cent French-speaking, but their rights, by an act of the legislature, were removed. The legislature did not even have the authority to remove them in the first place, but it did so anyway. Unfortunately, nobody ever attempted in a sufficient way, in my view, to correct the problem at the time it originated; it was left there for many years. Seemingly, it was a small group of people, and they tried to forget about the problem, hoping some day it would go away.

Some 80 or 90 years later a similar problem occurred in another province. I am speaking about Quebec and the problems we have seen there in another so-called bilingual province, which in turn attempted to curtail the rights and services offered to its English-speaking minority. Things went a little bit more quickly in that respect. Only a few years after that happened, some of the Quebec laws were challenged in the courts and invalidated. Then, all of a sudden, remedial action had to be taken.

**5:10 p.m.**

Of course, in deciding that the Quebec laws in question were not valid, a similar decision had to be taken about the Manitoba laws. They were both about the same issue; they were different linguistic groups, but both were bilingual provinces and so forth.

As we know, the outcome of all of this was that Quebec did take remedial steps in correcting its legislation, which was printed in French only but is no longer. It is printed in both languages now, as most of us who have been for a visit to the Quebec National Assembly know. The case of Manitoba, though, has certainly not been cor-



rected yet, and we know the problems there today. It does not appear as if they are going to be corrected very quickly.

We are anxiously awaiting the decision of the federal government to see whether the whole matter will be brought before the Supreme Court. It is my hope they will make an announcement to that effect as soon as possible, and it will not be one day too soon in my view.

I do think what happened in both cases, in Quebec and Manitoba, was very sad for all Canadians. We are all really losing by what we have seen happen. We see many countries in this world, some of which have four official languages. I am thinking of Switzerland. Probably the most fabled democracy on the face of the earth, it has four official languages.

Speaking French is certainly not going to lead this country to gloom and doom and all the rest of those things Mr. Lyon and others in Manitoba have told us. It just does not do that. To enrich ourselves with another culture does not make us poorer; it makes us richer. I am sure if all of us sat down and thought about it seriously for a few minutes, we would come to that conclusion.

We are living at a very historical time here in Ontario with a golden opportunity offered to us. As a legislature, we could seize this historic moment, have the Premier (Mr. Davis) meet with the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson) and the leader of the third party, if he wishes to attend, and come to a consensus on offering linguistic rights to the francophone minority of this province.

They could then come to this Legislature with a resolution to outline what exactly they intend to do, moved by the Premier and seconded by the Leader of the Opposition, or vice versa, whichever way they like; seconded or however by the leader of the third party as well, if he wants to become involved in it. We could come to a unanimous resolution in this Legislature, supported by all political parties, to amend our Constitution to guarantee the linguistic rights of francophones.

By doing this, we would put our province at the forefront of all other provinces in this country. Many times in the past in Ontario we have produced very positive and innovative legislation. Such legislation was then used as a model by other provinces. Whether we know it or not, we are the belly button of this country. We are at the centre and we are the people on whom everyone and everything converges. We know that. We are the largest province and we have the largest city and everything else where we are

right now. As I say, other provinces have often taken examples of our legislation and improved upon it on their own.

We could now pass a resolution in this Legislature, take that resolution, show it to Manitoba, Quebec and any other province and ask them to do the same. We could say, "Quebec, this is how you should treat your minority. Look at how we treat ours." We could say, "Manitoba, here is how to treat your francophone minority. This is how we treat ours." Instead, unfortunately, we have the attitude that we must offer services to the francophone community and not admit it except to the francophones. Why can we not be proud of the way we treat our minority? It has been said that a society is measured by how well it treats its minorities.

Things must not only be done, they must appear to be done. That is 50 per cent of the importance, if not more. The government of this province tells us we cannot improve the rights of francophones officially because if we do there may be a backlash.

Where is the Sterling Lyon in this Legislature? Do you see him, Mr. Speaker? I do not. There is no leader of a political party in this province who would start some of the things we saw out there. Where is there such a radical member in this Legislature? I do not think we have such a member, front-bencher or back-bencher. In no place in this House do we have that attitude displayed. I give much more credit than that to the members of this Legislature.

I think that if the Premier seized this opportunity and acted in such a way as I suggest, we would not see the sky fall down. Nothing would be tremendously different the day after, except that we would have achieved the symbolic status that is necessary for us. We would have injected an amount of credibility into this issue that we could then give to other provinces and ask them to do the same.

I would like to read to the members an editorial from the *Ottawa Citizen* of March 8.

"Premier Davis, who has just rejected Prime Minister Trudeau's call to entrench language rights for Franco-Ontarians, can point to recent events in Manitoba to show the wisdom of his gradualist approach to French language rights.

"Wasn't the Manitoba government strategy divisive and ultimately futile? Hasn't its failure harmed national unity? Why then should Davis, who has managed to expand French-language services without provoking a backlash, accept Trudeau's advice?"



"It's a seductive argument, but one that ignores the differences in political context between Manitoba and Ontario.

"In Manitoba, the NDP government's attempt to entrench limited minority language guarantees was consumed by a fierce political conflagration fed and led by the opposition Conservatives.

"In Ontario, both opposition parties support constitutional recognition for the French language, although the Liberals have been"—I am only reading what it says here—"waffling a bit of late. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that both would support a move by the Ontario government to recognize the duality of the province's heritage.

"That would eliminate or at least minimize the polarized atmosphere that poisoned the debate in Manitoba. While there would be some public resistance, it would soon wither without political conflict to keep it alive.

"It is naive to believe the step could be taken without political risk, though. Some Tory voters might feel betrayed and punish the government by switching allegiance or staying home on election day. And Davis's biggest problem could be his own caucus, much of which opposes constitutional guarantees for the French language.

"So there is a gamble involved, and the Premier has never been much of a gambler. But the potential payoff in terms of undoing the harm to national unity done in Manitoba is great enough that a real national statesman—which Davis likes to think he is—would surely undertake the risk. The failure in Manitoba has given Quebec's PQ government fresh ammunition. Davis can prove the PQ propagandists wrong with one grand gesture. It's up to him."

That summarizes some of my views on the subject.

Let me talk for a moment about what all this would entail. When I asked the Premier only a few short weeks ago in this Legislature if he would convene a meeting with a view to improving the constitutional guarantee, I did not ask him to amend every part of the Constitution. I did not even refer to it. I asked him to meet on an open agenda to talk about it.

But let us say for a minute that section 17(2) of the Constitution were amended. Let me read what section 17(2) says. "Everyone has the right to use English or French in any debates and other proceedings of the Legislature of New Brunswick."

**5:20 p.m.**

Let us say we added Ontario after New Brunswick. What would that cause? Let us look at this. Let me read from the standing orders of

this Legislature, "Rules of Debate," section 19(a), "Every member desiring to speak must rise in his place and address himself to the Speaker, in either English or French."

What on earth would changing that clause of the Constitution cost the taxpayers of this province? Absolutely nothing. We are already doing it. That clause would not cost a cent. Why the reticence in changing it? What possible excuse could there be for the Premier and the government of this province not attempting to do something with that clause? There is no logical reason for that not being done.

I know some members have expressed their concern in this Legislature in the past. They have said to me: "There are a lot of things wrong in this province. The economy is bad and there are all kinds of other problems. Why is this a priority"? I know many people think that way, but much of the confidence people have in this country revolves around the national unity we have. How can we have anything else if we are divided as a country? We must be united as a country. That is where the economic stability of our country comes from, our strength and our unity; from those evolves everything else. It is important for all of us, as I am sure members will agree, to be united as a country and to move in such a way that we can show an example to our sister provinces.

Some people have said: "Look at what the people in Quebec are doing. Is that not unfair? They have done wrong, so maybe we should do wrong as well." That kind of logic escapes me. But let us talk about Quebec for a minute and about some of the services it offers even now to its anglophone minority, while recognizing it is not right and is insufficient. What does it do? I want to read to the members a very brief text from Alain Dexter, who writes for *Le Droit*, the largest French-speaking newspaper in this country outside Quebec.

Alain Dexter writes the following:

"The government of Ontario claims that the educational needs of its official language minority are met to the same extent, if not more so, than those of Quebec's. To this the president of l'Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario, Mr. André Cloutier, replies that the point of view expressed by Queen's Park is nothing but propaganda. The president of ACFO is obviously keeping his eyes and his ears open.

"The fact of the matter is that Ontario's stance in this debate evidently stems from a desire to sow confusion in the minds of the Québécois. The declaration of the Minister of Intergovern-



mental Affairs, Mr. Thomas Wells, was aimed at Quebec.

"On the heels of the new Lévesque government policy in the matter of reciprocity with respect to educational services, Mr. Wells was attempting to imply that the educational opportunities his government is providing the Franco-Ontarians compares favourably with those enjoyed by Anglo-Quebeckers. As this view comes from a man who was Minister of Education for more than seven years, and as his current responsibilities of Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs make him one of the best informed people in cabinet, he cannot reasonably plead ignorance of the facts. Mr. Wells knows perfectly well that the educational opportunities provided the two official language minorities by the governments of their respective provinces have nothing in common.

"There is no denying that Ontario has made some progress, but that's a far cry from reciprocity. The government is calling for amendments to the Education Act, introduced last spring, to justify its posturing of self-satisfaction. What does this mean? Chapter XI of the act is amended in such a way as to guarantee francophones a right to education in their own language, but such instruction will not necessarily be available in a French school.

"In short, what the government is saying is that it agrees to provide francophones a French-language education if they so request, but they will have to accept French-language classes in an English school. We are therefore still thinking in terms of the bilingual school—assimilation process par excellence. It's the whole concept of educational 'institution' referred to in the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms which is at stake. As requests to have this point cleared up have already been referred to the courts, we will not pursue the matter further, except to say that the Quebec anglophones don't have to resort to such measures to have their right to their own schools recognized. They are moreover empowered by law to run them.

"You have to fight to get a French-language school in Ontario... You also have to fight to keep your acquired rights in the matter of educational institutions...

"There is no francophone community college in Ontario. There are many facilities here and there but no francophone community institution per se. The anglophones in Quebec have four public community colleges (four CEGEPs), i.e., Dawson, Vanier, Champlain and John Abbott. Quebec, moreover, has one private CEGEP—

—Marianopolis—where 78 per cent of the educational costs are covered by taxpayers. Conversely, private institutions in Ontario receive nothing from the government of Ontario.

"There is no French-language university in Ontario (the University of Ottawa is a bilingual university). Quebec has three English-language universities: McGill, Concordia and Bishop's. In short, there is no need to thumb one's way through a stack of files to realize we are a long way from reciprocity. You do not even have to be all that bright to figure out the subtleties. All you need is the good sense to recognize things as they are. This would seem to have escaped the comprehension of the minister, Mr. Thomas Wells, in this debate. It's embarrassing!"

That, of course, is a translation of the original text, but it is, I think, an accurate one. It was done by the government translation bureau, and I think it reflects what was said in the French text.

I will not take much time to talk about issues such as we have seen in the past, issues such as the Carleton by-election and others. But I think we all remember that they did happen in this province; so we are not, collectively as a society, unblemished; we do have our own sins here in Ontario.

We cannot speak of francophone issues without speaking of the school problem. I referred only moments ago to the article by M. Dexter on the post-secondary institutions, but I think it is at the elementary and high school levels that many of the quarrels have taken place in this province.

We will all remember reading in our history books that there were French schools in this province as early as 1678. By the way, this is not the bicentennial; there were people here in 1678. I will get into the bicentennial issue in a minute, but before that let us continue with what I am talking about now.

Fort Frontenac—Kingston today—had a francophone school then. Twenty years later another one was established in l'Assomption—I think we call it Sandwich today; it is the same place. So we had French schools in those days in this province.

It is interesting to know that after the Act of Union of 1841 there were French schools, English schools and German schools in this province, run in most cases by their own school boards. We do not even have that today as a homogeneous school board in 1984, but we had it at that time in our history.

There have been school issues in this province, such as the regulation 17 controversy. There was a resolution in this Legislature, the thrust of



which was subsequently adopted by the government through regulation 17 of the Ministry of Education. In any case, that regulation, which was in effect between 1912 and 1927, forbade the teaching of French in schools in Ontario.

In communities such as the one I represent there was a bitter struggle to that effect. In some schools in Ottawa, ladies would stand by the schools with hatpins to prick the inspectors if they ever attempted to enter the schools to verify whether French was being taught. Of course, even if they tried to prevent it, French was still taught in the schools in my area.

**5:30 p.m.**

In other areas, perhaps in northern Ontario, the people were spread out over a larger area and they were not able to mount as strong a struggle as we did in eastern Ontario. People like Senator Napoléon Bellecourt went to court and defended the Franco-Ontarians on this issue. Another who participated in that was Senator Philippe Landry and there were many others.

I am told that for a period of time the chairman of the Ottawa Roman Catholic Separate School Board was charged with unlawfully paying school teachers. He was paying them for teaching French. That was illegal; so he was paying them unlawfully and was thrown in jail for paying school teachers to teach in his school in this province. This did not happen in the 1600s. This happened this century in Ontario, in Ottawa, right near where I live.

At one point, some school boards were disbanded because they refused to adopt regulation 17. The whole matter was brought to the Supreme Court and then to the Privy Council of Britain, which had jurisdiction over our Supreme Court at that time. The Privy Council decided the government of Ontario had no authority to disband the school boards over this issue and they were subsequently reinstated. I believe that issue was fought by Senator Napoléon Bellecourt as well.

We have seen all those things in our history. We are now in 1984 and the francophones still want their schools. After this period of time, from 1678 until 1984, they are still trying to get a school. That is an awfully long time to wait.

Now, where are we with francophone education? Let us look at this a little bit. Some time in 1981 the government appointed a committee known as the Joint Committee on the Governance of French Language Elementary and Secondary Schools. This committee reported in March 1982 to the Minister of Education (Miss

Stephenson) and handed her its report. The report was tabled in May in this Legislature.

This report recommended some changes to the educational system. In my view it did not recommend enough changes. The report should have talked more about the establishment of French-language homogeneous school boards and this type of thing. However, the government had specifically told them not to talk about that, so they did not. Anyway, they did make some recommendations about improving this.

In March 1983 the government established a response to the report. It is called A Proposal in Response to the Report of the Joint Committee on the Governance of French Language Elementary and Secondary Schools. This response did not suit the people who had originally written the report and, of course, it did not suit the francophones either. Now, what do we have? A response to the response.

This comedy of responses goes on. We are now to February 1984 and we have the Sullivan report, which is a response to the response to the Report of the Joint Committee on the Governance of French Language Elementary and Secondary Schools.

This is since 1678 and here we are in 1984 moving right along. Sometimes in the deliberations in this Legislature, when we return from the committee of the whole House to sittings in the House, the Chairman reports progress. This is similar progress. It is very lengthy. It takes an awful long time before we get anywhere.

We now have this response to the response and still we had discussions last weekend at the annual conference of l'Association française des conseils scolaires de l'Ontario about these reports. We are not moving very fast again, after all this time.

Why does the government refuse today to give the region of Ottawa-Carleton a French-language school board? I know some of the members at the back are saying: "Voilà, you want three school systems. Is it not bad enough that we have two?"

In Ottawa-Carleton there are four school boards. What do the school boards want in Ottawa-Carleton? All four school boards of Ottawa-Carleton have agreed with a resolution to take their four boards and make three out of them. That is not one more school board; that is one less. The government is against that. They are against having one less school board in Ottawa-Carleton, not one more.

Would it not be again a great opportunity to pass enabling legislation to have a French homogeneous school board in Ottawa-Carleton



and use it as a prototype if the government wished. If this works well, then start one elsewhere; if it does not, we will do something else. Why not do it? It is not going to ruffle the feathers of the school boards in that area. They have already said publicly they support this kind of venture for Ottawa-Carleton, and for everywhere else for that matter, but let us try it there to start with.

Why are we so afraid to put one foot ahead of the other when it comes to linguistic rights? I say that in a context in which we should remember some members of the government have gone ahead and done at least something to officially recognize our linguistic minority. I speak to the very historic day in October 1983, when the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) introduced Bill 100 in the Legislature. We could talk about the introduction as being a rather rocky one, nevertheless I will not talk about that; I will talk about the content of the bill.

Section 135 of that bill says, "The official languages of the courts of Ontario are English and French." That is the first time I can think of that any piece of legislation, any bill or act of the Ontario Legislature, has ever called the French language official. I really admire the decision taken on that day to introduce that bill in that form. Maybe I do not agree with the method that was used to introduce it; nevertheless I want to offer my support, as I did then, to the Attorney General for his courage in having at least included that in legislation.

I hope it has created a precedent and will be used in other legislation in this province.

I want to read a little tongue-in-cheek article. Perhaps we have been serious for too long. It is written by Gary Lautens, who writes for the Toronto Star, and is headed "Speaking French Won't Rot Your Teeth."

"English-speaking Canada is in a panic over the French language and all sorts of ugly rumours have sprung up.

"In the public interest and to restore order in the streets, it should be pointed out that certain stories making the rounds are not true.

"It is not true, for example, that French is more fattening than English, Chinese or Ukrainian.

"It is not true that if you say 'Comment ça va?' you will get warts on your tongue.

"It is not true that Air France has a 100 per cent crash rate because its pilots speak French.

"It is not true that if you speak French you immediately feel an irresistible urge to rush out and eat three plates of snails, toss back a magnum of champagne, and then do a torrid dance in a tiny

bistro with a girl in a tight skirt and striped shirt who insists on throwing your beret into the corner.

"It is not true that French contains more dirty words than any other language.

"It is not true that the Queen won't let Prince Philip speak French in front of the children.

"It is not true that a woman who buys a French dictionary will grow a moustache and sideburns within 24 hours.

"It is not true that God punishes anyone He catches writing French words in a notebook.

"It is not true that French-speaking people are the first hit during lightning storms.

"It is not true that Louis Pasteur, Monet, Napoléon, Madame Curie, Toulouse-Lautrec, Victor Hugo, Baudelaire, Debussy, Balzac, Proust, Renoir, Degas, Saint-Saëns, the Rothschilds, and Ravel were really English and faked their French.

"It is not true that declining a French verb is the first step to personal hygiene problems.

"It is not true that wheat will not grow where French people spit.

"It is not true that just one word of French whispered into a young boy's ear will cause him to rush off to some foreign place and become a couturier, or hairdresser.

"It is not true that anyone who eats cornflakes with French on the box will die before the sun sets.

"It is not true that Britain is in its current economic slump because it has shown Brigitte Bardot movies without French subtitles."

**5:40 p.m.**

The article goes on with other issues equally as important. Perhaps many of the concerns we have, as members of this Legislature and as a society, over what effect bilingualism would have are best summarized by that tongue-in-cheek article. Many of the fears we have are very serious and they are deeply felt, but these probably would not have much more of an impact on them than what the author of this document writes:

M. le Président, j'aimerais vous parler brièvement du bicentenaire de la province de l'Ontario, l'événement très historique dans notre province. Comme nous le savons, et je suis sûr que tous les députés le savent, Samuel de Champlain est arrivé dans Prescott-Russell en 1613, il y a déjà un peu plus de trois cents ans, comme vous l'avez sans doute constaté en employant votre calculatrice et des mathématiques assez faciles.

**Mr. Stokes:** That is the name of a lake in New York state, is it not?



**Mr. Boudria:** That is correct. That is the name of a lake in New York state, and Champlain was in my constituency in 1613, a trifle more than 300 years ago.

Si nous continuons avec l'histoire de la province de l'Ontario, on se souviendra sans doute, comme Madame le député de Scarborough-Est (Mme Birch) nous démontrait, que oui, c'est peut-être vrai, mais la première communauté établie en Ontario date de 1784. Bon, encore une fois mon histoire est incorrecte, l'auteur de ce livre, McGuinness, est sans doute incorrect, tous les autres historiens ou la plupart des autres historiens sont incorrects, puisque nous étions tous d'avis que la première communauté établie en Ontario était Sainte-Marie des Hurons en 1639. Peut-être que nous sommes incorrects encore, peut-être qu'il n'y avait pas réellement de la vie avant 1784 dans cette province.

Souvenons-nous, M. le Président, que cette province et le Québec d'aujourd'hui étions la même province avant la Loi constitutionnelle de 1791. Alors, de la bataille des Plaines d'Abraham, de la loi qui a suivi en 1763 jusqu'à la Loi constitutionnelle de 1791, nous, où nous sommes aujourd'hui, c'était le Québec à ce moment-là. Alors en 1784, où étions-nous si on était à Toronto? On était au Québec. Comment pouvons-nous célébrer le bicentenaire de l'Ontario en 1784 quand la province n'existait même pas à ce moment-là?

It is important to realize that in 1784, prior to the Constitution Act of 1791, where we are standing today was part of Quebec. There was no division of the provinces. There was only one colony here. So if we are celebrating the bicentennial of 1784, we should be celebrating the bicentennial of Quebec, not Ontario. That is where this was in 1784. Most of southwestern Ontario, eastern Ontario—not the north, which was part of another jurisdiction—but all we know here in southern and eastern Ontario was at that time the province of Quebec.

In 1791 a longitudinal line was drawn at the western extremity between la seigneurie de Vaudreuil and la seigneurie de Longueuil. At that point we separated Quebec into two provinces, to make Upper Canada and Lower Canada. It stayed that way until after Lord Durham's report in 1839. In 1841, we decided to unite the two provinces and form the united Province of Canada, and it stayed that way until 1867.

**Mr. Stokes:** Where did Joseph Brant fit into all of this?

**Mr. Boudria:** Of course, important historic events occurred in 1784. I am not going to deny

that. As the member for Lake Nipigon (Mr. Stokes) states, there were important people, and an important event occurred then. In so far as constitutional documents recognizing the existence of provinces are concerned, there was none signed that year. There was one signed in 1783, the Boundary Act between this country and the United States.

In 1841 we had the Act of Union, in 1867 the British North America Act, then the Statute of Westminster of 1931, then our constitutional document of 1982 that I have right here in front of me.

We can use all those years, and go back to even older ones—for instance, the Quebec Act of 1774—that established the democratic institutions of this country. Many of our laws come from the Quebec Act of 1774. If we use the Treaty of Paris of 1763, at that time, after serious negotiations, the government of England, which tried desperately to trade its new colony for Guadeloupe and failed, subsequently had to accept it. These are the dates we have in front of us.

The members have probably noticed I have enumerated all kinds of years and none of them ends with a four. How can we celebrate the bicentennial of the Constitutional Act of 1791 in 1984? I know we have modern mathematics, and it has done wonders for us, but 1791 plus 193 still makes 1984, not 1784 plus 200.

**Mr. Gillies:** What about the fact the centennial was celebrated in 1884?

**Mr. Boudria:** That is a very interesting point. I am glad the member for Brantford (Mr. Gillies) brings up that point. The centennial that was celebrated in 1884 was not the centennial of Ontario and he knows that. It was the centennial of the United Empire Loyalists. That is fine.

**Mr. Gillies:** It was a centennial.

**Mr. Boudria:** Yes, it was a centennial. It would be the same as if the member for Brantford told me I should celebrate my birthday January 1 this year because he did last year. That has about the same relevance.

**Mr. Gillies:** It has no relevance.

**Mr. Boudria:** That is the point he is making. If it is his birthday, that is fine; just do not tell me it is mine because it is inaccurate and he knows it. They are now bombarding this whole province with oodles of money, their travelling road show for \$1 million, while some of the people of Prescott-Russell on social assistance are wondering whether they will be able to buy dinner at 5:50 p.m. tonight, which is the time now. Some of them will go hungry in this province in 1984.



**Mr. Haggerty:** Not only there but all over Ontario.

**Mr. Boudria:** I am sure that happens elsewhere, as the member for Erie (Mr. Haggerty) says.

What priorities do we have? If it is our birthday let us celebrate it, but if it is not let us not.

**Mr. Boudria:** There was an interesting article in the *Globe and Mail* recently in regard to what the year meant, and the conclusion was it meant the year prior to an election versus any other.

**5:50 p.m.**

M. le Président, il y a déjà un bon bout de temps que je prends de l'Assemblée législative pour prononcer mon allocution. Je ne voudrais pas prendre beaucoup plus de temps, mais je voudrais quand même peut-être prendre les prochaines cinq ou six minutes pour nous rafraîchir la mémoire sur un aspect particulier du problème de la gestion scolaire en Ontario.

J'ai affirmé tantôt dans mes remarques que nous avons des problèmes sérieux dans la gestion scolaire et il y a un endroit où ce problème-là semble s'accroître et c'est le Nord de la province. Je suis sûr que tous les députés de l'Assemblée législative reconnaissent les problèmes sérieux qu'ont les régions du Nord de l'Ontario. Je prends par exemple la dispute scolaire de Cochrane-Iroquois Falls, celle de Dubreuilville semble s'être résolue, tant mieux. Je sais aussi que nous avons un problème semblable à Mattawa et dans d'autres régions le problème est en train de mijoter et va s'accroître dans les mois et les années qui viendront.

En janvier 1983 j'ai fait le tour de la province et j'ai publié un rapport qui s'intitule "Droits et privilèges", un rapport qui avait pour but de tenter d'apporter des solutions à ce problème-là dans le Nord de l'Ontario. Vous savez sans doute que les députés du parti ministériel se plaisent toujours à nous renouveler la mémoire que nous, de l'Opposition, sommes toujours là pour prêcher la terreur, toujours critiquer et ne jamais rien offrir de constructif. C'est souvent ce qu'on nous dit. J'ai publié ce rapport-ci, je ne crois pas que le rapport était amer envers personne, je crois sincèrement qu'il était constructif. Dans mon rapport j'ai publié plusieurs recommandations. Recommandations vis-à-vis l'amélioration des services et comment faire fonctionner les entités scolaires de langue française dans le Nord de l'Ontario.

Le document n'adressait pas le problème des conseils homogènes et tout ça. Le document en question adressait seulement comment faire fonctionner les entités de langue française que

nous avons dans cette province qui sont pour la plupart dans le Nord de la province.

Tant que nous aurons une structure en Ontario (par structure je parle de la Commission des langues d'enseignement, en anglais the Language of Instruction Commission), une structure qui n'est dotée d'aucun pouvoir nous ne verrons jamais aucune solution à ces problèmes d'entités scolaires. La seule façon de corriger ce problème est de les enlever de la scène politique. On a vu au Manitoba ce qu'une scène politique peut faire pour provoquer les gens, alors il faut enlever justement cette situation de la scène politique et la donner à un corps quasi judiciaire.

Alors moi j'ai proposé dans le rapport qu'on établisse en Ontario une Commission des langues d'enseignement qui serait semblable à la Commission des affaires municipales de l'Ontario, dans le sens que la Commission aurait un pouvoir quasi judiciaire qui pourrait trancher les disputes sans menace d'aucune influence politique et que lorsque la Commission aura tranché cette dispute-là, que la personne qui se sent insatisfaite pourra toujours se procurer ou se doter d'un appel au sein du Conseil des ministres, mais l'initiative sera toujours de la part de celui qui est insatisfait d'aller voir le Conseil des ministres.

La situation que nous avons actuellement est une situation où il semble n'y avoir personne qui soit chargée de trancher la question. Pour corriger ce qui manque au système actuel, le ministre de l'Éducation se propose, dans sa réponse au rapport sur la gestion scolaire, d'établir une structure par laquelle lui-même sera appelé à trancher la question.

A mon avis, M. le Président, cette solution est totalement inacceptable. Si on prend par exemple que le ministre ou le député représentant une circonscription dans laquelle il y a un problème, dans laquelle il y a un conflit scolaire, je prends par exemple le cas d'Iroquois Falls avec le député de Cochrane-sud, si on prend que ce député-là peut être un collègue au sein du Conseil des ministres avec le ministre de l'Éducation, peut-être dans une structure ministérielle future, le même député pourrait lui-même être ministre de l'Éducation.

De toute façon, si on prend le contexte actuel, prenant en ligne de compte qu'un conflit scolaire, c'est dangereux politiquement, ayant une minorité et une majorité qui se font face, si on prend tout ça en ligne de compte, avec un ministre qui est appelé à trancher la question, il n'y a pas de doute, M. le Président, qu'il y aura des pressions internes qui se feront auprès de ce ministre-là, par un de ses collègues, lui disant



“ne touche pas à ça Betty, c’est une patate chaude.”

Alors je suis d’avis que tant et aussi longtemps que le pouvoir politique sera celui qui tranchera les disputes dans les questions d’entités de langue française, il n’y aura jamais une solution. Il faut se rappeler que le 5 octobre 1979, ce ne sont pas les gens d’Iroquois Falls qui ont décidé d’adopter la politique d’établir des entités scolaires, ce ne sont pas ces gens-là. C’est le ministre de l’Éducation dans un discours en cette date qui a établi que dorénavant on encouragerait l’établissement de ces entités.

Alors, les personnes d’Iroquois Falls, de ces CLF, des conseils d’éducation de cette région et plusieurs autres en Ontario ont tenté de mettre en vigueur la décision du ministre et lorsqu’ils ont tenté de faire ce que le ministre leur avait demandé, ils se sont vus dans l’impossibilité de le faire puisque les Conseils d’Éducation se refusaient à l’établissement d’entités de langue française. Alors, avec ce problème-là qui leur faisait face, les gens ont décidé d’aller voir la Commission des langues d’enseignement qui a partagé l’avis avec eux, oui messieurs-dames, on devait avoir une entité de langue française dans votre région.

Et tout ça n’a rien accompli, parce que les Conseils d’Éducation ont toujours refusé d’agir même avec cette recommandation de la Commission des langues d’enseignement. Naturellement la Commission des langues d’enseignement comme je disais tantôt, dans le moment n’a aucun pouvoir, alors la population a fait appel au ministre de trancher la question. Le ministre n’a rien fait. Des années plus tard le problème s’enflamme, les gens sont frustrés, fâchés, en colère les uns contre les autres, et c’est malheureux, dans ces communautés-là.

C’est malheureux parce que ce n’est pas nécessaire. Toute l’affaire aurait pu être résolue d’une façon beaucoup plus pratique s’il y avait eu un corps qui aurait tranché la question avant qu’elle ne s’enflamme. Ça va être difficile de corriger, même avec une nouvelle structure les disputes actuelles parce que la population est déjà enflammée. Mais quand même on pourrait s’assurer que cette situation-là n’arrivera pas ailleurs.

I have gone on for a rather long time. Maybe the government members would agree with that. Perhaps it was too long, but I thought it was important today to describe the linguistic situation as I see it in this province. It is my own humble opinion on how it could be resolved.

I am asking all party leaders of this Legislature again to have such a meeting as I recently asked the Premier for. I know the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Mr. Wells), who is present in the House now, would want to attend such a meeting of all three party leaders. Such a meeting, I hope, would result in a resolution that the minister or the Premier could then bring back to this Legislature, a resolution we could then pass to amend the Constitution and that we could then wave at other provinces of our country to demonstrate to them how we in Ontario, being the compassionate people we think we are and have always believed we were, treat a minority linguistic group.

I am not talking of treatment in so far as services are concerned; there are problems there, but that is not the main thrust of it all. Services can be improved, and slowly some things are being improved; it is being done to a certain degree, anyway. The thrust of it would be to restore our credibility vis-a-vis the other provinces.

What other opportunity is there for this Premier to leave his mark before he moves on to other things? What other opportunity would the Premier of this province have to have his name recorded in history?

If this Premier were to resign today, historians would not treat the man kindly; we all know that. Members on all sides of the House would know that and would recognize that. I say this in an attempt not to be too partisan on the issue. I think it is a fact that there is an opportunity, perhaps the only one left for this Premier and this government, to leave a mark on the history of this country as a force that will have tried to unite the people not only of Ontario but of all of Canada. I ask them again, let us do it. Allons-y.

On motion by Mr. Martel, the debate was adjourned.

The House adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

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## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Tuesday, April 3, 1984

Afternoon Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Tuesday, April 3, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## BARRIE-VESPRA ANNEXATION BILL

**Mr. Breagh:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: On Tuesday, March 27, I raised a point of order concerning the presentation of Bill 142, an act to ravage the township of Vespra. I wanted to point out at that time that in my opinion the bill was before the House in a rather unusual way, because it was presented by the chairman of a committee that did not yet exist.

I await your ruling on that matter, but it has been complicated somewhat by a copy of a letter that arrived at my office this morning. It was from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett) to the mayor of the city of Barrie. I quote a portion of it: "As I understand it, the schedule reflects a further refinement to the boundary in the Little Lake area."

If the letter is correct, it means the bill that was dealt with in committee was altered by the minister prior to its presentation in the House. While I think the bill is before the House in a manner that is out of order and therefore illegal, and while it appears to me it will be challenged in the courts, posing a subsequent problem, it also seems very odd that a committee will deal with a bill that has had second reading here, will go through it clause by clause, will subsequently report it to the House and then, prior to its being debated, the minister informs the municipalities the bill has been changed yet again without the knowledge of the members of this House and without its appearing before a committee of the House.

I think this is all out of order. I put it to you that this bill is before us in an illegal and improper manner and should be withdrawn.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you very much.

## LAYOFFS AT INCO LTD.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, I want to correct the record. Yesterday the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) told the House he had precise information that the parties in the Inco layoffs at Port Colborne would get together to resolve the problem themselves, which would be to the long-term benefit of the employees involved.

The parties did get together yesterday, and the company said no to all efforts for further assistance, no to improved pensions, no to job transfers and no to a one-year extension of benefits. What the minister told the House was wrong. I wonder whether he is now prepared to reassess his position.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I point out to the honourable member that he may rise to correct only his own record, not the record of another member.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### BICENTENNIAL PROJECT

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure this afternoon to announce that a ceremony in Cornwall later today will mark the official release of a publication in honour of Ontario's bicentennial of settlement.

Ontario: An Informal History of the Land and its People, published in English and French, represents the fulfilment of the major bicentennial project of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

This 48-page booklet now begins its widespread travels throughout the province into homes throughout Ontario, a journey which we hope will reach the hearts and minds of all Ontario students and their parents. More than two million copies are being distributed throughout the school system and the libraries of colleges and universities.

Brightly illustrated with old photographs, drawings and antique maps, the booklet was written by Professor Robert Choquette, a historian in the University of Ottawa's faculty of religious studies. Dr. Choquette was selected by the Ontario Bicentennial Advisory Commission to tell Ontario's story. He brought to his task an accomplished background of scholarship in the most sensitive areas of historical research, religious and linguistic history. Dr. Choquette's previous scholarly works have focused on the history of religious and linguistic conflict in this province and on how the people of Ontario have triumphed over those conflicts.

It is not surprising that one of the most important messages in this new booklet is that Ontario has survived religious and linguistic



conflicts better than most other societies, mainly through the determination of Ontario's people to overcome diversity and divisiveness for the sake of the common good.

**Mr. Speaker,** let me also tell you what this booklet is not. It is not a textbook, nor is it an official exhaustive history. It has been designed as an inspirational primer to renew the flow of intellectual curiosity so we can better understand ourselves.

In Cornwall this evening, my colleague the member for Scarborough East (Mrs. Birch) will join members of the Ontario Bicentennial Advisory Commission and its chairman, Arthur Gelber, in honouring Dr. Choquette at the Cornwall Civic Complex.

I commend this new booklet to the attention of all the Ontario families that will soon see it brought home from school. Let us all read it and learn that Ontario's past is indeed prologue to Ontario's future. Our historical methods of resolving our differences have worked and will continue to work. Let us all welcome a publication that has the value to endure and to become an important element in the definition of our provincial identity.

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, on a brief point of order: Is there any reason this very important notice from the minister was not given to the opposition critics? It is an extremely important announcement, and I do not see it on my desk.

**Mr. Speaker:** I was not aware that it was not, and nobody drew it to my attention.

#### SHELL CANADA LTD.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, if my memory serves me correctly, the Premier promised us a statement on Shell Canada today after his meetings today. I understand it was undertaken yesterday and I am waiting for that statement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is that a question?

**Mr. Peterson:** I am waiting for it today.

**Mr. Bradley:** There is no statement.

**Mr. Peterson:** Is he or is he not? What is the point of asking a question if he does not know anything? He should volunteer the information. How many times do we have to ask? Is he the only person in this province who is not informed as to what is going on? It is unbelievable.

[Later]

**Mr. Speaker,** while I am on my feet, I have a point of privilege. The Leader of the Opposition, I think by accident, suggested I had committed myself to a statement on Shell Canada today. My memory is fairly good; I know his is excellent,

except he is wrong most of the time. Instant Hansard from yesterday records my comments as, "There has been some communication with Shell; there will be more tomorrow."

Interjections.

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, why do we not stop the clock while they have this little chat?

**Ms. Copps:** It is a point of view, not a point of order.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I also said, "I am not at liberty to disclose the discussions at this moment."

**Ms. Copps:** It is not a point of privilege.

**Mr. Bradley:** Stop the clock.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The member's leader started it; I am just telling him I gave no past commitment.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

#### ORAL QUESTIONS

##### LABOURERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour with respect to the takeover of Local 1059 of the Labourers' International Union by the international.

We have had discussions about this matter in the House with the minister before, warning him of what would happen. Exactly what we predicted would happen did happen because of a deficiency in the Ontario law to prevent this kind of abuse. I know the minister is going to be meeting with people in Local 1059 some time this week.

Why is it he, as the minister charged with the responsibility for protecting workers in this province, has not moved on this question? Now we see the spectacle of this international union taking over a local even though, admittedly, there are illegal practices. The judge was frustrated that there was nothing he could do because of the inadequacy of the law.

2:10 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, it is correct that I have arranged with the six-member executive of the Labourers' International Union in London to meet with me and my senior officials on Friday of this week at nine o'clock. We intend to discuss the matter fully at that time.

**Mr. Peterson:** That is not good enough. The minister has had meetings before. I refer him to what he said in response to a question on February 11, 1983: "The point I want to make is



that we are not leaving the London local hanging out to dry. They do have an alternative. They have recourse to the courts, and recourse to the courts is not something new and different."

The minister has had his meetings, he has referred them to the courts and now he has let them hang out to dry. Clearly, it is an inadequacy of the legislation in Ontario.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** My question is whether the minister is going to move legislatively to end this abuse.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** At the time I made the statement quoted by the Leader of the Opposition, I felt there was adequate recourse in the courts and through the Ontario Labour Relations Board. That was the legal advice I received, and we acted accordingly. Now it appears we have to take another look at it, and we are fully prepared to do so. That is the reason I initiated the meeting. I want to make that clear; I invited these people to come in and meet with me. They did not call me and ask to come in; I invited them.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I simply indicate to the minister that, as we said at the time it was raised before, it is important to try to find an administrative route, a route that is used in virtually all other aspects of labour law. I would like to ask the minister whether he would reconsider. Would some kind of appeal to the Ontario Labour Relations Board not be in order in the light of what has happened in this instance by going to the court?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, that is certainly a possibility we will look at.

**Mr. Peterson:** The advice the minister got was wrong. Surely he will now admit that, and surely he will admit that the only way to rectify this abuse is to proceed legislatively. We put forward an amendment in this House some time ago that would have prevented this abuse. Will the minister go forward with an amendment to the act that will force these trusteeships by internationals to be subjected to review by the Ontario Labour Relations Board to protect workers in the province? Why will he not do that specifically?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** At the time this matter was first raised in this House by the Leader of the Opposition, my officials and I took every possible measure to discuss the matter with the leaders of the two parties, their Labour critics and some of the well-respected senior labour leaders in this province. We found it very difficult to reach a consensus at that time.

We are now prepared to look at it again, but I am not going to stand up here today, before I have had the opportunity to talk to these people and to read the decision of the judge in question, and say I am going to do this or that. I am going to take a good look at it, and I have started that process by inviting these people in.

#### PENSION FUNDS

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman), I will ask the Premier a question. It is a question he should be apprised of that he cannot answer by saying he can neither confirm nor deny it; nor can he say he has no knowledge of it. The Premier's administration, to finance the deficits the government has run up in this province for the past many years, has borrowed \$25 billion from captive pension funds, paying below-market rates. Is it his intention to pay back that \$25 billion?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, this province has always paid its bills.

**Mr. Peterson:** How is the government going to pay that money back? Will it increase the contribution rates of various pension funds or increase taxes in this province over the next many years, making those who come after us pay excessively for the government's spending practices of the past? How is the government going to pay it back? Specifically, what methods is it going to use?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I am so tempted to get into how the government of Canada will deal with it, how it will reconcile its problems with the former Minister of Finance who has now become the member's great friend and ally, but I will not go back that far in history. I will say only that this province has paid its debts and will pay its debts. We have a triple-A rating which is the envy of many other jurisdictions. Most objective observers of the financial affairs of this province regard it as probably one of the best-managed jurisdictions anywhere in North America.

**Mr. Peterson:** Frankly, that is a fatuous response. I have a very serious question which I would like the Premier to address. Either his administration or one following his will have to deal with this question.

The government owes \$25 billion to pension funds, captive funds, and by and large has been paying below-market rates. That is a reality. That is how the Davis deficits have been financed over the past 10 or 15 years.

Now we are heading into a huge financial crunch. In a couple of years, the government will have to start paying back the interest it has never



paid before on the Canada pension plan. In 1991 or 1992, the government will start drawing down capital and, at current contribution rates, by the year 2003 the Canada pension plan will be bankrupt—that is, assuming the government pays back what it owes.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** Who is going to pay so the government can pay back the money it owes? How is that money going to be raised?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Even the Leader of the Opposition, who has been here for a period of time, understands some of the basic functions of government. There are two ways for government to obtain money: one is through taxation, the other is through borrowing. I think it is fair to state that over the past number of years this province has borrowed very little money in the marketplace itself.

There is no question we have borrowed money from various pension plans, such as the teachers' superannuation pension fund. The honourable member can argue as he will about it. I would suggest he talk to one or two of his colleagues who are participants in that plan and see whether we have handled that properly, whether it has been well dealt with and whether we have treated the teaching profession with equity. I think the member will find that most of the teaching profession, even members in his own caucus, will some day be the beneficiaries of that plan. I look at the distinguished member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. Newman)—

**Mr. Peterson:** If you pay it back.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Of course we will pay it back. The member knows we are going to pay it back, and so does everybody else, just as the member pays his bills. We will pay it back in the same way we have for years, either through taxation or a minimum amount of borrowing. That is how it is done. It is very simple.

#### OVERTIME WORKERS

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour concerning the amount of overtime that is being worked in the province.

The minister may or may not be aware that in February 1984, more than 500,000 workers in this province worked more than 50 hours a week and slightly less than 500,000 worked somewhere between 41 and 49 hours a week. That is nearly a million overtime workers in Ontario.

Given the fact that 13 per cent of the labour force is working more than 50 hours a week, and given the amount of unemployment out there in

society, how can the minister justify the amount of overtime currently being worked?

Will the minister please put into effect some measures to amend the Employment Standards Act to get the hours of work down now to share the work more fairly in Ontario? It seems a little unfair to have nearly a million people working overtime at the same time as we have 500,000 people unemployed.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, that matter has been under review. The problem is to try to find a fair and reasonable resolution to a very serious problem. I acknowledge it is desirable. On the other hand, in many cases, it is simply a case of good economics and keeping a company viable. It is a lot easier to keep somebody on overtime for a weekend than to hire somebody who then has to be laid off a week or two down the line.

2:20 p.m.

That is one of the biggest problems we are facing today. Because of the economy, because of the recession in certain areas and industries, they have found it easier and more adaptable to production problems to work people overtime than to go out and hire and have to lay off.

**Mr. Rae:** I would have thought the Minister of Labour, rather than standing up and justifying the business practices of a number of major companies that, as he has said, find it easier to work people harder and to work the existing employees overtime than to create new jobs, would be more concerned with seeing that we create new jobs in this province, share the work that is there more fairly and give a chance to those people who have been locked out of the work force.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** How can the minister justify the fact that there has been no amendment to the Employment Standards Act to get the hours of work down and to require employers to share the work more fairly at a time when we are coming out of the biggest recession we have faced in 50 years? How can he justify not taking steps to give a little hope and a little opportunity to the hundreds of thousands of people out there who cannot get work at all?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I have to be frank with the honourable member and indicate to him that I have no plans at this time to amend the Employment Standards Act in the manner he has suggested.

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, some time ago—as a matter of fact, a considerable period of time ago—I questioned the present Minister of



Education (Miss Stephenson), who was then the Minister of Labour, about the matter of overtime permits given out by the employment standards branch. We did not get much of an answer then and we are not getting much of an answer today.

I realize this is a very sensitive matter because there are some workers who would prefer to have the status quo. I wonder if the minister would try to take a co-operative approach with the unions and with the industries that are unionized and promote the idea that industries that are allowing significant overtime should possibly be hiring other people who are in the unfortunate position of being out of work so the problem can be resolved without legislation.

We are fast approaching, if we are not already there, the time when legislative action might be necessary. Will the minister try this co-operative proposal and then report to this House on whatever undertakings he has made?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, a certain measure of what the member is suggesting is already being done by people within our employment standards branch.

Perhaps I am repeating myself, but the extent to which employment opportunities would be created is really the crux of the matter, and I am not convinced from the information I have that legislative measures to reduce the hours worked would result in increased employment opportunities. It would possibly and quite likely result in dislocations to the present labour force and to the industries that are trying to recover from the recession they have gone through.

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Labour is aware of the letter written by the president of Local 6500 in Sudbury, Mr. Ron Macdonald, in which he complains about the amount of overtime being worked by Inco employees. There are men working three shifts in a row, 24 hours without a break, frequently working seven days in a row, and the company will not even tell the union how many workers are working overtime or the total number of hours; all it will tell them is the percentage of overtime that is being worked on the basis of the total number of hours worked by the employees.

I wonder, too, if the minister can tell me if he is satisfied with this happening in a community with about 15 per cent unemployment. By my rough arithmetic, the amount of overtime being worked would come to somewhere between 200 and 300 jobs that could be done by calling back laid-off employees.

Finally, does the minister agree with the ill-informed member for Brantford (Mr. Gillies),

who said, "I have a riding full of them, and all they want to do is line their own pockets"? Does the minister think that is the attitude of the trade union leadership in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the letter Mr. Macdonald has sent to me from the local in Sudbury. I am totally sympathetic to the problem he is bringing forward, but the honourable member should bear in mind that collective bargaining is almost upon us for that local and that is something which I think should be addressed through the collective bargaining system.

**Mr. Laughren:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Labour did not reply as to whether he agreed with the sleazy comment of the member for Brantford. What a bunch of clowns over there.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Laughren:** Why does the member for Brantford not stand up and say what he just said? Why does he not go on the record officially and say what he just said?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Laughren:** Why do you not make him say it, Mr. Speaker?

**Mr. Speaker:** Surely the member for Nickel Belt knows that is not my role.

**Mr. Laughren:** I do not know what your role is.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is quite obvious.

#### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Labour. It concerns a very important matter of health and safety affecting workers at the Inglis plant in Stoney Creek.

Is the minister aware of the fact that the four workers who have been exposed to isocyanates, which as the minister knows are used in making the foam that goes into refrigerators made by Inglis, are now receiving workers' compensation and that as many as 15 or 16 other workers are suspected of having what is called sensitivity to isocyanates, which means they have very severe respiratory problems when exposed to this substance in the air?

If he is aware of that fact, can he explain why the ministry's own report, which was supposed to adjudicate the dispute between the workers and the employer with respect to what was happening at that plant, did nothing to ensure that the area producing the foam would be enclosed and that workers in the rest of the plant would not



continue to be exposed to this very dangerous and hazardous substance?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the circumstances the honourable member has brought forward. There was a meeting held on March 27, I believe, with representatives of the United Auto Workers. Mr. Gill of the United Auto Workers was quite upset with the report in question and wanted to meet with the authors, and that has been arranged. Regrettably, one of the authors was not available on that date, and another meeting will be held.

I have been assured the report is all-encompassing and addresses the matter; Mr. Gill feels otherwise. As a result, we are trying to mediate the circumstances with senior officials from our occupational health and safety branch, with Mr. Gill and with the local union officials. I think we are going about this in a very responsible way.

**Mr. Rae:** A large number of workers are suffering permanent health problems as a result of exposure to this substance. Given that fact, can the minister explain why the report states, "We have not estimated the cost of the enclosure at this point in time"?

Can he explain why there has been no estimate of the cost of the enclosure when his ministry's very own guidelines with respect to the lowest-possible-level concept, with which the minister will be familiar, call for a serious cost-benefit analysis respecting any new technological change to improve the situation? Can he explain why that was not done when his own guidelines call for it?

Why was there no cost-benefit analysis done when there is this number of workers affected and when Dr. Hargreave, who as the minister knows is the chest specialist at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton, is now on record as saying that workers who work outside the area and suffer from this problem of sensitization will never be able to go back to the plant because as soon as they are exposed to the substance they will suffer from an allergic reaction? Can he explain why that was not done?

2:30 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I am completely confident that we have the situation in hand and that we are addressing it. Within two or three weeks, I will be able to give the member and everyone else opposite a complete report and we will be able to bring a proper and just resolution to a matter that happens to be a difference of opinion between experts on this side and experts on that side.

We are going to work it out. I am very optimistic that we will.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, why is the minister using mediation or cost-benefit analysis when it comes to the critical issue of workers' health and safety?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I do not believe we are using cost-benefit analysis at all, and we are not using mediation. We are just using the simple, civilized process of sitting down together where we have a problem and reaching a resolution.

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, the fact is that the ministry did not follow its own guidelines, including the need for a cost-benefit analysis of technological changes that would protect the worker.

I would like to ask the minister if he agrees with Dr. Hargreave, who indicated there is a serious need for tougher legislation so workers know what they are working with and the health effects of this material.

What is he going to do to improve the right to know, especially for people such as Judy Friend, who worked as a maintenance worker at Inglis for 13 years? Beginning in 1977, she had to clean up a number of spills but was never told what she was cleaning up, or even that it was a chemical, or anything about the effects of this material, and now she is a compensation case.

What is the minister going to do to stop this kind of thing in the work place and to ensure workers know what they are working with so they do not expose themselves to hazards when the company is unwilling to give them the information they need?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** What am I going to do, Mr. Speaker? Exactly what I said we are in the process of doing.

#### BARRIE-VESPRE ANNEXATION BILL

**Mr. Epp:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the Barrie-Vespra dispute.

The minister is aware Bill 142 is before the Legislature. He is also aware that last year this Legislature passed the new Planning Act. In the Planning Act, the minister touted the local autonomy he was going to recognize. Another aspect of the Planning Act has to do with provincial interest.

Could the minister indicate to this House how he is consistent with the Planning Act in recognizing Vespra's local autonomy by taking 2,000 acres away from Vespra? How can he square with the provincial interest his policy of bringing in Bill 142 when there is no provincial interest in taking away 90 per cent of Vespra's



commercial assessment and 40 per cent plus of its total assessment so that Barrie might have that assessment?

How can he square the Planning Act with taking away the local autonomy from Vespra township?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, this problem in Barrie, Vespra, Innisfil and Oro has been going on since before 1970. Indeed, in 1970 we tried to find ways of resolving the problem, and the member will remember we had the Georgian-Simcoe Area Task Force that looked at the overall development opportunities in that part of our province.

In 1970 Barrie indicated it wished to get involved in annexation. This government, through the minister of the day, put it off until the Georgian-Simcoe Area Task Force reported. In 1976, when the task force reported, we then found an application for annexation by Barrie with the Ontario Municipal Board.

Ever since that date, they have been going through a long, difficult process—"they" being Barrie, Innisfil, Vespra and Oro. They have been trying to find some grounds for communication and, indeed, for settlement. As members of this House well know, over a period of time Innisfil negotiated a boundary settlement with Barrie. We resolved that problem with Oro as well.

The situation with Vespra went on under the old Municipal Boundary Negotiations Act and has continued under the amended act. We even offered a settlement some two years ago which Vespra opposed on the grounds that it did not want Barrie involved in its particular geographical area of this province.

It was not the Planning Act that made this decision, as the member is well aware, for he was at the public hearings that went on for a three-week period. It comes down to the basic problem that we had two municipalities with a difference of opinion. This ministry eventually became the arbitrator in the case and brought in the legislation.

**Mr. Epp:** The minister is aware of the twin cities we have in Ontario, namely, Kitchener-Waterloo. He is also aware that his predecessor the Honourable Darcy McKeough recognized that more than 80 per cent of the residents of Waterloo rejected becoming part of Kitchener in a referendum. The residents of Vespra, in a similar exercise not very long ago, rejected losing any amount of their land to the city of Barrie.

Will the minister, in all fairness to the people of this province, particularly in fairness to the

people of Vespra township, look again at the possibility of establishing a status quo as far as the boundaries are concerned and letting each municipality expand within its own boundaries, and stop gutting the smaller municipalities for the sake of the larger municipalities?

[Interruption]

That is exactly what the minister is doing. He is gutting the small municipalities so the larger municipalities can have some more land for expansion. Why does he not let the small municipalities expand within their own boundaries?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** It is obvious the members arranged for the Vespra people to be in the audience this afternoon so he could put on some degree of a show for them.

Interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** The member should hold himself in control. He can go back to the historic factors of his particular operations too.

It is not the intention of this government, and the member knows it very well, to gut any municipality on behalf of another one. We indicated very clearly in the geographic development of this province there would be growth areas. That has been an understood fact in the member's region, as it happens to be in the Ottawa-Carleton area and others.

The Georgian-Simcoe Area Task Force very clearly indicated the economic development area of this community was Barrie. Vespra went ahead and allowed for this shopping centre which was on the periphery. The services to it were all provided by the community of Barrie, and Vespra was very well aware of the fact.

If the member looks at the final conclusion of the task force and at the two OMB hearings, in every case the conclusion was that the lands Barrie asked for and put before the OMB have been accepted by the OMB as justifiably within the Barrie area. I will admit those hearings were cut down because of some minor technicalities.

**Mr. Breagh:** Mr. Speaker, is it still the minister's intention to proceed with this bill in the absence of a financial agreement? Is he going to go ahead with this whether there is a financial agreement negotiated among Vespra, Barrie, the county and the province?

Perhaps he could explain to us exactly which set of boundaries he is currently proposing. We had several before the committee. The committee, with its majority, chose one set of boundaries. I read this morning in a letter to the mayor



of Barrie that the minister has changed the boundaries again.

How does he purport to change the boundaries without at least going through a committee of the Legislature? Exactly how does he intend to proceed? Is he going to do away with the legislative process entirely and simply rewrite this on his own? He appears to have made a commitment to the city of Barrie to change the boundaries yet again.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, it was my understanding, as the member knows very well, the committee recommended some changes in the boundaries. That is exactly what we said at the time we introduced the legislation. If the member recalls, we distinctly said we had arrived at some boundaries but they were negotiable, they were flexible, they were the maximum position we would go to as a government. We said the committee could come back in with some recommendations of adjustments on those boundaries and I understand it has done so.

2:40 p.m.

It says very clearly in the legislation that we will try to negotiate with the various partners or parties to find the financial sum required. But if that ultimately cannot be achieved through negotiations or bargaining, the minister has the right to make the final determination. That does not preclude us from enacting the legislation without the financial position being put in place. The negotiations might go on for a period of time. I hope we will find we can get to the financial part of this bill with Barrie, Vespra and the county as quickly as possible. That does not preclude the opportunity of having this bill in place and the boundaries effective on July 1, with settlement coming thereafter.

I want to emphasize again that I said clearly to this House last week and in previous commitments that we are asking those communities to sit down with us to put in position all the things they believe are negotiable under the financial settlement. We are inviting them to do that.

My assistant deputy minister, Mr. Fleming, has been out in the last little while asking Vespra, Barrie and the county kindly to come forward to let us find some solution to this problem. Ultimately, the boundaries that are recommended in Bill 142 will become a reality.

#### HEALTH CARE REGULATION

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour, if I could have his attention. Could the Minister of Labour explain why his ministry is insisting on a

performance-type occupational safety and health regulation for workers in the health care institutions of this province?

That is a recommendation which states an objective without specifying the manner in which that objective is to be achieved, even though the overwhelming majority of the responses from the health care sector workers and the unions that represent them, which are published in the minister's own compendium of comments, reject this approach to regulation as so general that it is meaningless and unenforceable.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, it is correct that there has been an organized letter-writing campaign in respect to the proposed health care regulation. Let me stress one thing. I said "proposed" health care regulation. That is all it is.

In each letter in which I have responded, I have pointed out that it is proposed. There is further opportunity for consultation. It is not cast in stone. I am totally convinced we will come up with a regulation that will meet the requirements of the act and will address the concerns of the people who have been writing on a regular basis.

**Mr. Wildman:** If that is the case, could the minister explain why he has refused to hold public meetings across the province for direct input on the development of the regulation and revision of the draft regulation from the unions and the workers in the health care sector? Is he prepared to agree to the proposal made by the health care sector coalition that he establish a structure for the development of this regulation similar to that which was set up to deal with the mining regulations?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** About three or four days ago I received a letter signed by six different union leaders, including Mr. Sean O'Flynn and Ms. Lucie Nicholson, to name just two of the six. They asked for an opportunity to come in and meet with me to discuss the very matter the honourable member has raised in the House today. That meeting is being set up. We will go on from that meeting after I have had the opportunity of their consultation and advice.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, is the minister not concerned that if the proposed regulation is adopted as it has been circulated, he could be setting himself up for a possible violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms when those sections of the charter come into effect?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I do not know how many letters I have to write and how many times I have to answer. I can only stress



again that it is a proposed regulation. We are far from getting to the point where it will be sent to the standing committee on regulations and other statutory instruments or be gazetted.

We have a lot of procedures to go through before we get to that point. We are totally committed to consultation. I have written a six-page or seven-page letter which explains exactly where we stand and the further steps we intend to take. I think I sent a copy to the member for Algoma (Mr. Wildman) and I will send a copy to the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps) as well.

#### LAND BANKING POLICY

**Mr. McKessock:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. During our rural municipalities' area task force meeting in Simcoe, the concern of area residents over government land banking policies was raised a number of times. That concern is the result of poor planning on the part of this government.

Some 25,000 acres of community farm land in the Townsend and Cayuga areas are seriously eroding. Has the Premier been made aware of the concerns of the area residents? Has he given any consideration to their suggestion of providing junior farmers with the opportunity to buy this land at a price that would be acceptable to the farming community so the land could be put back into useful production?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I missed a part of the question. Was the honourable member referring to two specific areas, Townsend and Cayuga?

**Mr. McKessock:** Yes.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I can only say the government has been exploring possible uses for the Cayuga site. The Townsend site, as I recall, is in the process of development. I am not sure it would fall into the same category.

**Mr. Peterson:** It is forced development. The government is paying outrageously.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I would only say of the interruption from the Leader of the Opposition that he should go back in the historical record of his party and find out how many times he was urging the land banking of real estate in this province. That is when it was the great party of reform, which it now pretends to be again. He can just check what has been the historical position of his party.

**Mr. Peterson:** Is the Premier trying to justify his government's stupidity?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The Leader of the Opposition will please resume his seat.

**Mr. Swart:** Throw them both out.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Supplementary.

**Mr. McKessock:** Given that this government has been leasing this land to active farmers on a three- and four-year basis, but the crop rotation and conservation programs are carried out only on a longer-term basis, the government is not giving the farmers a chance to comply with what should be the very important goals of food land preservation.

How much longer will the Premier allow this prime agricultural land to be needlessly eroded before he decides what he is going to do with this land, which the government should never have purchased in the first place?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I think there are several areas in the province where the province has an interest in real estate where there may be more productive activity going on now than when the land was acquired.

I am always receptive to any creative ideas from members opposite related to the use of some of this land, whether it might be a case for 4-H Clubs or junior farmers and so on; I think they are all worthy of exploration. But I think any objective assessment would indicate that many acres that were not in production when certain land acquisitions were made are today in production under some form of lease agreement.

#### CANADIAN CONTENT

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. I am sure the minister will be aware of the Canadian preference section of the Ontario Manual of Administration, particularly as it refers to the purchase and management of goods and services. May I remind him that it says under the policy statement, paragraph 1:

"In order to comply with the policy of the government to encourage the production of Canadian goods wherever such goods can be economically produced, ministries shall allow a price preference of up to 10 per cent to be given in respect of the Canadian content of goods and services supplied to the government"—that is, the Ontario government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Swart:** I have here an example of Shoot to Score, a new instant lottery ticket put out by the Ontario Lottery Corp., which comes under his ministry; this is a lottery corporation unique to Ontario.



2:50 p.m.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Swart:** In light of the foregoing Manual of Administration, would the minister explain why the Shoot to Score tickets are produced and printed in the United States instead of being produced in Canada to provide Canadian jobs?

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, first of all, I am pleased the member for Welland-Thorold is playing the game Shoot to Score, and I wish him luck on it.

The other thing I want to say is there is a very simple answer. Although the tickets may be printed in the United States, the company that produces the Shoot to Score tickets is a very successful Canadian company.

**Mr. Swart:** I wonder if it is the policy of the government now to funnel work to the United States through a Canadian company.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Swart:** Would the minister be prepared to tell us what tendering he did for those tickets that are printed in the United States? We contacted the Pot O' Gold people and they told us their tickets are produced in Canada at Pollard Western Banknote Ltd., Buffalo Avenue, Fort Garry. We also contacted Gaylord Lithographing of Toronto and the people there stated the minister had not asked them to tender on the printing of those tickets.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Swart:** Pollard Western Banknote Ltd. can print anything that can be printed in the United States. Will the minister now admit he did not try to get a Canadian supplier? Will he now tell us what he paid Southam to have those tickets produced in the United States?

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** I can only assure everyone in this House that on any single purchase the Ontario Lottery Corp. sticks to the manual and does it according to the law. I am sure in this instance there was no exception. I will check into it to make sure, but I am totally confident the Ontario Lottery Corp. is sticking to the tendering practices set down by this government.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, the minister will recall a few years ago the government came up with the brilliant idea of buying Constitutional medallions that said "Proud to be Canadian" and were minted in Rochester, New York.

Can the minister tell us today why years after members bring examples of things bought and

made in this country into this House day after day, the government has to go elsewhere? Our pens, letter openers and every other piece of stationery we have in this Legislature are made outside this country. When is the government going to get its act together and give jobs to Canadians?

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** Mr. Speaker, I have great difficulty seeing that as a supplementary question. The member is talking about purchases that might have been made by any other ministry in this place.

#### DEVELOPMENTAL CENTRES

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education relating to the developmental centres across the province, which she is familiar with, specifically Harmony Developmental Centre and West Lincoln Developmental Centre in the Niagara Peninsula.

Since the minister in the past has not assured the House, at least to the satisfaction of the opposition, both in estimates and in this chamber, is she able to assure the House today and also the parents, staff and members of boards of education in the Niagara Peninsula that she is prepared to continue the operation of developmental centres in the province, specifically these two developmental centres, for those who have been designated as profoundly mentally retarded, many of whom have multiple handicaps of a physical nature?

Will the minister also assure us she will not close those developmental centres in the Niagara Peninsula, that the centres will continue to get the same level of funding they have in the past and that they will retain the same staff who are there at present and retain all the services available to those children at the present time? Will the minister give the House that assurance this afternoon, an assurance that has not been forthcoming in the past?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I would have great difficulty providing the assurance the member asks for when he knows full well my ministry is not responsible for the operation of developmental day care centres. They fall under the aegis of my colleague the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea).

If the honourable member does not know it, I have assured the parents in the area that we have been working together with the Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Health to develop an appropriate arrangement



that will provide for the best possible care and treatment for those children, which falls under the responsibility of other ministries, and the provision of educational program, which falls under my ministry.

**Mr. Bradley:** The minister is well aware that the controversy has arisen as a result of the effect Bill 82 would have on those developmental centres. Is the minister prepared to give assurances as Minister of Education that when Bill 82 is in full operation, outside of the fact she will be providing additional educational services, we will have the status quo for the Harmony Developmental Centre and the West Lincoln Developmental Centre? Will the minister assure those people so they can have some peace of mind and some confidence the Ministry of Education is at long last going to listen to their pleas?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** The gratuitous insult at the end of the statement is entirely unjustified because, in spite of the vitriol of the member for St. Catharines, there has been a great deal of co-operation and discussion about this within the three ministries involved and at the local level.

If the member would simply reread the Education Act, he would understand that Bill 82 requires boards of education to provide educational programs for all children registered within a board who are resident pupils within that board. We shall most certainly ensure that responsibility is carried out.

**Mr. Grande:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Education stated developmental centres are under the responsibility of the Ministry of Community and Social Services. Does the minister not realize that the Ministry of Community and Social Services has already stated there will be no funding to those developmental centres come September 1985 and that they are going to be taken over by the Ministry of Education and the school boards?

Will the minister admit that, talk to the Minister of Community and Social Services about the decision the minister has made and then move to assure the parents that the children in the 22 developmental centres across this province will not have less of an educational program than they now have in the developmental schools?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding the Minister of Community and Social Services has never made such a statement and certainly has not done so publicly. I have assured this House that there has been a great deal of consultation, which will resolve all the problems. I can only commiserate with the

parents of children in developmental day care centres who have been subjected to the fear-mongering of the opposition members in this whole area to try to disrupt the implementation of Bill 82.

**3 p.m.**

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

**Mr. Breaugh:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Provincial Secretary for Social Development. It concerns a rather serious conflict of interest in the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Is the minister aware that in 1982, the area director for the Peterborough office, Mr. Alan Vallillee, commissioned a study by T. A. Croil and Associates done by Mrs. Dorothy Easton? This study was about a residential treatment centre in Oshawa called Durham House. In effect, the study recommended the closure of that residential care facility.

Subsequent to that, Mrs. Easton moved on to work for a company called Kinark, which provides group home care; Mr. Vallillee is currently on a leave of absence from the ministry, also working for Kinark. We have the unusual situation of a civil servant who commissioned a study that closed a residential group home in Oshawa. He then went on a leave of absence and now works for a private sector group home company providing the same care he had brought out of that study.

Is it not a clear conflict of interest when a civil servant commissions a study that in effect closes a group home, goes on to move to different kinds of group care and then goes on a leave of absence to work for Kinark, the company now providing that group home care?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that sequence of events. I would be glad to draw it to the attention of the appropriate ministry if the honourable member will give me the details.

**Mr. Breaugh:** Quite frankly, it seems to me to be outrageous. I want to ask the minister this specific question: is it not outrageous that a civil servant can put out contracts, set in motion policies that give these kinds of contracts to the private sector, in this case Kinark, and then go on a leave of absence to work for Kinark? Is that not a little bit beyond the pale even for this government?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** I could not answer that question without having the details.



## AGGREGATES ACT

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Natural Resources. When is the minister going to reintroduce the Aggregates Act?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** That has not been decided yet, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Does the fact that the minister does not want to decide when he wants to introduce the act indicate the reason for backing the aggregate policy into the Planning Act and making the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett) the gravel czar of Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** This provincial policy has been in the development stage now for some years, and I issued it as a provincial policy statement about a year ago, on February 23, 1983. At the same time, the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) introduced the food land guidelines as a provincial policy statement.

Subsequent to that, upon section 3 coming into effect at the end of August 1983, the process of having it as a provincial planning statement under the Planning Act began. But the actual statement itself was in various stages of evolution from the 10-point program, or the interpretation of the 10-point program from the cabinet decision of 16 points, over a period of about six years. So a policy statement in the context of the existing legislation, the Pits and Quarries Control Act, is nothing new in this province.

## NIAGARA ESCARPMENT COMMISSION

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Provincial Secretary for Resources Development.

I understand the minister will soon be making his recommendations to cabinet concerning the final Niagara Escarpment plan. In view of the remarkable series of events at the Niagara Escarpment Commission, including the resignation of two important members and the remarkable reversal of the position of the commission on the protection of the Beaver Valley, will the minister explain whether he understands the reversal of its position from one of vigorous protection of the Beaver Valley to one of supporting some development in the valley? Will he table all the documentation available to him that led to that remarkable reversal before he makes his recommendations to cabinet or before the plan becomes final?

**Hon. Mr. Sterling:** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure the documentation the honourable member

refers to is relevant to the power I am given under the act whereby I am to consider the recommendations of both the Niagara Escarpment Commission and the hearing officers, who over a period of two years heard 1,000 briefs, some of which were on the Beaver Valley.

I can accept the recommendations of the escarpment commission and the hearings officers, or I can disregard either and submit my own recommendations. I am reading the reports. Those recommendations have been given to me; I have not gone into a lot of detail on that background, but I have on some. I am not familiar with all the documentation the member is referring to, but I will be pleased to look into how much documentation there is and how much of it is within my control before making any commitment.

**Mr. Laughren:** I assume the provincial secretary is aware that the mineral aggregate resource planning policy of the Ministry of Natural Resources states that all aggregate deposits be included in any kind of official planning document and protected for extraction purposes. In view of that, will the minister assure us the policy of protecting the aggregate deposits for extraction purposes will not apply to the 40,000 acres of aggregate in the Niagara Escarpment? Will he tell us that policy will not apply to aggregate deposits on the escarpment? Otherwise, we are going to lose even more of that precious resource.

**Hon. Mr. Sterling:** I understand that is not an accurate description of the aggregate policy. Having said that, I do not know whether it is relevant, because in terms of my total recommendations on the escarpment plan, I will be making that a part of my decision. Therefore, that recommendation is not a hard and fast decision at this time. If the member would read the act, he would know my recommendations have to be approved by the cabinet of Ontario. Therefore, I cannot make a personal commitment about what would be included in the aggregate.

## PETITIONS

EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF  
EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, which reads:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are



still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Stokes:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a petition, which reads:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This was signed by 42 teachers employed by the Lake Superior Board of Education.

**3:10 p.m.**

**Mr. Van Horne:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from constituents of mine in London North, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I also have a petition, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of

occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983"—demonstrating the very fine leadership of my colleague the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps),

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I too have a petition, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition is signed by 36 residents of the riding of Beaches-Woodbine, which I have the honour to represent, and of various other ridings in the city of Toronto. I support the petition.

**Mr. Yakabuski:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, which reads as follows:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

This petition is signed by 16 constituents of the riding of Renfrew South.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILL

### HIGHWAY TRAFFIC AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Peterson moved, seconded by Mr. Nixon, first reading of Bill 26, An Act to amend the Highway Traffic Act.



Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, subsection 109(12) of the Highway Traffic Act now reads as follows:

"The speed limits prescribed under this section or any regulation or bylaw passed under this section do not apply to,

"(a) a motor vehicle of a municipal fire department while proceeding to a fire or responding to, but not returning from, a fire alarm or other emergency call; or

"(b) a motor vehicle while used by a person in the lawful performance of his duties as a police officer."

The amendment would permit ambulance drivers to exceed prescribed speed limits in emergency situations.

As well, I should just say this bill was prepared by a very able young man by the name of Geoffrey Lahn and by some of his associates who were working on a university project. I am happy to introduce this into the House.

#### NOTICE OF DISSATISFACTION

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding, I would like to advise all honourable members that pursuant to standing order 28(b), the member for Essex South (Mr. Mancini) has given notice of his dissatisfaction with the answer to his question given by the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope) regarding commercial fishing. This matter will be debated at 10:30 this evening. I thought you would all like to know.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

##### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE

(continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, I have some news for the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier).

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Let us not hear the same speech we have heard for 17 years.

**Mr. Martel:** No. If I could start, I was hoping the member for Sudbury (Mr. Gordon) would be here. I have a letter which he and the president of his riding association have penned and sent to all the members of the Progressive Conservative Party in Sudbury. A brown envelope came into my possession containing one of these letters. For chutzpah, this guy takes the cake. I was

hoping he would be here because I wanted to chitchat.

For the information of the Minister of the Northern Affairs, one of the items in here says my friend the member for Sudbury brought the following things to Sudbury in his two short years—

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** He will be back, Elie.

**Mr. Martel:** I want to compliment him. That is why I was hoping he would be here.

Here he is. I am glad he showed up, because I am not supposed to have this letter. He did not send me a copy and I feel badly about that.

In 1967, the member for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) said I was a one-tripper. It has been a long trip.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Your former leader told me that too. Stephen Lewis has gone—

**Mr. Martel:** I was disappointed the member for Sudbury would not send me this letter. This four-page letter of accomplishments by the member for Sudbury, signed by none other than our good friend Gerry M. Loughheed Jr., president of the PC organization, says, "I am writing to you in my new position as riding president. I want to present to the good people that Mr. Gordon has accomplished the following things."

I was here before the last election. The Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program included an Ontario Centre for Resource Machinery; it was buried in BILD. I do not know whether the member for Sudbury means he delivered the cheque.

**Mr. Kerr:** Where?

**Mr. Martel:** To Sudbury; but it was in BILD before the election was called. I do not know whether he carried the cheques up there. I suppose he did, and God bless him for bringing the cheques, but they are creating the illusion that he was responsible when it was announced in BILD prior to the election being called. I remind my friend that just a week before the Conservative nomination, he declared he was not running. He was not in on the planning.

The second item he takes credit for is \$10 million for the Science North facility. Everyone at regional council knew the amount of money that was coming to Sudbury during the election. If the member for Sudbury had said, "I delivered the cheque," I would have no objection. I have no objection to him delivering the cheques, even the dubbed one. They called a press conference for one after it had been cashed. In Sudbury the rumour is—I do not know how true this is—



**Mr. Haggerty:** Does he take the credit for the layoff at Inco?

**Mr. Martel:** No, he does not take credit for that.

**3:20 p.m.**

I understand a press conference was called a month after about \$1.7 million had been obtained. There had been a cheque written, a press conference called, and the member for Sudbury gave this cheque to the Science North facility. I do not mind him delivering the cheque, but to suggest that he got this facility when it was negotiated long before he became a member, I find that a little hard to take. There are several more that I find even harder to take.

If the member has a point of order, I will sit down.

**Mr. Gordon:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: I feel the member is, first of all, being inaccurate with regard to the member for Sudbury and does not have his facts straight. I am surprised, in the circumstances, because as was pointed out he has been in this Legislature for a great number of years.

I would like to address myself to the first point he raised with regard to my dealings with the Ontario Centre for Resource Machinery.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. I understand the point the member is anxious to make. However, I have to say it is not a point of privilege and I would suggest that perhaps he reserve that point until his time to speak comes around.

**Mr. Martel:** I was willing to share the floor with the member. He will notice how generous I was.

**Mr. Gordon:** Since the member for Sudbury East has said he would share the floor, I would like to take the opportunity, since he has given up some of his time.

**The Deputy Speaker:** In some forms of debate someone can yield the floor, but on this occasion the member will just have to wait.

**Mr. Martel:** I want to say the next item is a beauty, and the Minister of Northern Affairs would like this one.

There are five lanes going into Sudbury East on Highway 69. I am told the member for Sudbury went down and told the engineers where to put the passing lanes. He said, "One passing lane goes here and the other one goes there." He even picked them out. He knows more than the engineers do.

**Mr. Gordon:** The member for Sudbury East has done nothing. That is his problem.

**Mr. Martel:** Let me tell the member for Sudbury, rather frankly, that passing lanes were being installed on Highway 69 south long before he became a member.

**Mr. Gordon:** The member for Sudbury East has been asleep at the switch.

**Mr. Martel:** Let me go on. I have a few more—

**Mr. Gordon:** He did not meet with the minister about those passing lanes. He wasn't there.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for Sudbury East has the floor.

**Mr. Martel:** Was that when the member was negotiating with the Liberals?

Let me go on. I have a few more choice ones here.

Interjection.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, let me continue. There are some interesting ones in here.

I want to tell the member for Sudbury that long before he came here there were several cabinet ministers who at my request started to install passing lanes. One of them was the late John Rhodes; another was the present Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow). Passing lanes were being spoken of long before the member for Sudbury came to this Legislature.

Let me give him another one, for pure chutzpah—\$255,000 for the Occupational Health and Safety Resource Centre. I want to tell Mr. Speaker that I sat with the then Minister of Labour, the member for York East (Mr. Elgie). I conducted the meetings. The minister granted the money. My friend had nothing to do with it; he would not even attend the meetings.

I will give him another one, the Finnish centre. He says he got the Finnish centre; \$96,000 for the Finnish Hall. I was at the opening of the Finnish Hall—on Saturday, no less. Their application had been turned down. I asked a representative of the Finnish community, "Did you ever approach Jim Gordon?"

Do members know what he said? "No." But the member for Sudbury has written down here: "I got the money. I got the bundle."

It was not even his riding; they had not approached him. He had a press release from the cabinet minister responsible, he ran to the telephone, he phoned Sudbury and he said: "I just got this. I want to announce it."

Everyone knows these things go to the government office, but for someone to try to take



credit for something he was not even involved in—

**Mr. Gordon:** The member is really getting hassled, is he not?

**Mr. Martel:** No. I want to tell members about this great letter. The Occupational Health and Safety Resource Centre was not involved and the Finnish hall was not involved.

I will give the member a better one, a last one before I leave it. It concerns Ontario Hydro. He says, "I went before the Ontario Energy Board." Do members know what the Ontario Energy Board recommended to Hydro? It recommended the rate increase. Do members know who rolled back Hydro?

We went to see Mr. Macaulay and Macaulay said: "It will be rolled back by the government. It is a government policy. It will not be by the Ontario Energy Board." It was the cabinet that rolled it back; it was not the Ontario Energy Board.

The member should show me where the Ontario Energy Board rolled it back. My colleague the member for Lake Nipigon (Mr. Stokes) and I went to see Macaulay. The member for Sudbury can ask my friend if Macaulay did not say: "This is a political decision. It will be determined by the politicians."

**Mr. Stokes:** That is what he told us. If the member wants to call him a liar, go ahead.

**Mr. Martel:** If the member wants to say Macaulay is lying, go ahead. When my friend the member for Lake Nipigon and I visited Macaulay, that is what Macaulay said.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The member has as much respect for the truth as Ali Khan has for a marriage licence.

**Mr. Martel:** If that is truth, then I do not know what the hell fiction is. But it is just a little letter that he sent to his constituents.

**Mr. Gordon:** Mr. Speaker, I think there is a certain amount of prevarication here.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Does the member rise on a point of order?

**Mr. Gordon:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: He has accused the member for Sudbury of being a prevaricator.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. Will the member for Sudbury East take his seat, please.

**Mr. Gordon:** He has accused the member for Sudbury of prevarication in a news release that he put out, or that somebody wrote.

**Mr. Martel:** I did not.

**Mr. Gordon:** Yes, the member has and I want that withdrawn. He has alluded, he has insinuated, that the member for Sudbury has lied. That is the furthest thing from the truth. I want that taken off the record. The record will show what the member said.

**The Deputy Speaker:** All of us should remember our rules of order. I refer the members to standing order 19(d)8. There shall be no allegation against another member, as you all know.

**Mr. Martel:** Do not play that game. There is no allegation anywhere. Do not come around with that nonsense.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. I have been following the debate and the interjections and there has been a lot of skirting very close to allegations. I have not heard any levelled yet. I would ask the members to bear that in mind, both in the formal debate and in the interjections.

**Mr. Martel:** I would like to say that I—

**Mr. Gordon:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: The man has accused me of prevarication and I demand that be withdrawn from the record. No member should accuse someone of anything like that. That is falsehood and it has to be withdrawn.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Would the member for Sudbury East please just take his seat while we clarify the point of order for the member for Sudbury.

Would the member for Sudbury like to state specifically the allegation he feels is involved.

**Mr. Gordon:** He suggested that the member for Sudbury is a liar and the member for Sudbury is not. I want that withdrawn.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. I would remind the member for Sudbury that he cannot call another member of the House a liar.

**Mr. Gordon:** I did not.

**The Deputy Speaker:** No, you cannot.

**Mr. Gordon:** The member on the other side has suggested I am, and very directly. I would like you, Mr. Speaker, to examine the record. You do not have the facts before you. I want that withdrawn.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Yes. You are certainly entitled to point out at any time where the member would make that kind of accusation. However, merely appearing to does not suffice. I will be watching the debate and I ask all honourable members to remember the tone, the decorum and the rules.

**Mr. Martel:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I did not write the letter. The member for Sudbury did. It is signed "Jim Gordon."

**Mr. Gordon:** On a point of privilege or a point of information, Mr. Speaker: He pointed out to us quite clearly that it was Mr. Loughheed who wrote the letter.

**The Deputy Speaker:** There is nothing in our rules about a point of information.

**Mr. Gordon:** I have no problem with the record. I have no problem with what he is reading into the record because it will show that the member for Sudbury East has done nothing for the Sudbury region for years.

**The Deputy Speaker:** To the member, last call.

**Mr. Martel:** Do you not think that is an allegation against my good name, Mr. Speaker?

**The Deputy Speaker:** The member for Sudbury East will continue.

3:30 p.m.

**Mr. Martel:** I have to refute that. Even the minister knows that—

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. Would the member return to the debate, please.

**Mr. Martel:** I am. The member for Sudbury said I did not do a thing. The minister knows that just three or four weeks ago he and I chatted about a fire truck for Awrey and, with the assistance of the minister, we got a fire truck for Awrey. If the member says that getting a fire truck for the good people of Awrey is doing nothing, then I suggest he should go to Awrey and tell them that receiving a fire truck is not helpful to them.

He might try that. He might go to see some of the Finnish community. I was there on Saturday.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Give the government credit, now.

**Mr. Martel:** I just said that I worked with the minister responsible. The member is not the government, he is only a supporter of the government. That is his trouble. He thinks he is.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** He is part of the government.

**Mr. Martel:** No, he is not. The minister does not understand the system either. He had better read the rule book. He had better read Lewis. He should read Lewis and see what he has to say about that. He might learn something about this zoo, too, because it does not say that. If the member wants to be a cabinet minister then he should get to the cabinet, but if he wants to take

credit for things that he has never looked at then that is—

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The member for Sudbury supports everything we do so he has to take credit for it. He does not condemn us; he supports us.

**Mr. Martel:** Is that it? I am glad to hear it. That is what I was saying. He even went down and picked out where the passing lane should be installed on Highway 69 south. I hope that is what he did.

**Mr. Gordon:** Every time I drive home, I see those new passing lanes.

**Mr. Martel:** I want to tell my friend that the former member for Parry Sound, the member's good friend Lorne Maeck, used to quote me ad infinitum on my insistence that we have passing lanes until we could afford four lanes. Lorne Maeck will tell the member he quoted me extensively in all his campaigns and he supported that position.

Going back as far as 1971, when I was critic for the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, I was recommending passing lanes. Ultimately, some of the member's colleagues started to put them in. I do not take credit for them putting them in. They had to make that decision. I brought the idea forward time after time during those estimates. For the member to suggest that he is doing things, such as the Occupational Health and Safety Resource Centre—

**Mr. Gordon:** That is the truth.

**Mr. Martel:** I happen to know very personally the minister who was responsible for bringing that through. I know when that money was granted.

**Mr. Gordon:** I know him too.

**Mr. Martel:** Yes. It says here that the member for Sudbury did it.

**Mr. Gordon:** Right on. I got in and fought for it.

**Mr. Martel:** By the time the member reached Queen's Park the fighting for the Occupational Health and Safety Resource Centre was over. It was just a case of the money becoming available in the next budget. I also knew that. Let the member tell the people of Sudbury what he wants to tell them. In fact, that is not true. That is the problem.

Let me talk about the throne speech—

**The Deputy Speaker:** I would remind the member about that. Order. Let us get this clear because—



**Mr. Martel:** I am going to, sir.

**The Deputy Speaker:** —it looks as though we are headed for trouble.

**Mr. Martel:** No, no.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for Sudbury East ought to know the rules better than he does. He cannot charge another member with deliberate falsehood so let us not skirt around unless we trip into it.

**Mr. Martel:** I do not think I said that.

**The Deputy Speaker:** No, no. The member said that what the member for Sudbury told the people of Sudbury was not true.

**Mr. Martel:** That is right.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Under our rules, the member cannot make that statement in this House.

**Mr. Martel:** Wait a minute, Mr. Speaker. Here is the bloody letter that says he got the money for the occupational health and safety centre.

**The Deputy Speaker:** That may be so.

**Mr. Martel:** That is right. He did not—

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. Would the member please take his seat.

**Mr. Martel:** I did not say he was lying.

**The Deputy Speaker:** In this House, the member for Sudbury East cannot accuse a member of that falsehood. The member said it was not true. What could be clearer than that?

**Mr. Martel:** I did not say he was lying.

**The Deputy Speaker:** According to our rules—

**Mr. Martel:** Then show me what our rules say.

**The Deputy Speaker:** No, no. It does not say “lying” in here.

**Mr. Martel:** Show me where our rules say it. Let me get my rule book. I carry one around.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Why does the member not carry on with the debate and not use that word “untrue” again, and look it up on the side?

**Mr. Martel:** All right. I will not even talk to the member for Sudbury. I was trying to be fair.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Look it up on the side, otherwise we are going to be withdrawing it.

**Mr. Martel:** I beg your pardon?

**The Deputy Speaker:** We will have to face withdrawing it if it is used again.

**Mr. Martel:** I am not even going to talk to the member for Sudbury any more. I am going to talk about the throne speech.

**Mr. McClellan:** At variance with the facts.

**Mr. Martel:** No, that is not good either. I was going to use the word “dissembling” but that is not very appropriate either. Reckless abandonment?

The throne speech really offered very little hope to us. As Stephen Lewis would say, it was bereft of substance; there were a lot of platitudes, but it was bereft of substance.

The problems of the Sudbury basin actually started in 1978. I remind some of the people who were on the select committee that we knew in 1978 we were heading for tough times in Sudbury, and the government has done very little.

We have put in a provincial building, but the outflow of people—the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope) was startled when I said that—is more than 10,000 and the unemployment figure still remains at 16 per cent or 17 per cent. As my colleague indicated today, some 8,800 people will come off the unemployment insurance rolls by July or August.

We have had an outflow of 10,000, which is closer to 15,000. I am told that births as opposed to deaths were not calculated in the number of people who have left the city; they took people who were in residence on the tax rolls and simply calculated that, and it showed an outflow of 9,500 people. So we have 9,500, probably closer to 13,000 or 14,000, who left; we have unemployment at 17 per cent or 16 per cent; and we have 8,800 people coming off unemployment insurance benefits by October.

The Minister of Natural Resources can jump up when I say they have not done much, but we have known about this since 1978. Those of us on the select committee were told it was going to go downhill, that it would continue to go downhill to about 7,500 jobs at Inco; and this government has done virtually nothing to act as a catalyst or anything else to create or to help create permanent employment in the Sudbury basin—nothing.

They stand condemned, because they cannot have those types of statistics and beat their breasts, as they are wont to do, to say they have done something on behalf of the residents or the people of Sudbury; they have not. The outflow has taken care of some of it, many are on unemployment insurance and many more are on welfare; and it is going to increase.

What have we done, having had that warning since 1978? We had some goats, yes. The government of Ontario helped to found Sudbury



2001; we had a few goats, which created a few jobs—

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** You were on the board of directors.

**Mr. Martel:** I helped to clear it up for the Minister of Northern Affairs, because his guys were delivering cheques to Ernest. Does the minister remember Ernest Schaffernicht, the goat farmer, getting his cheques down in Texas?

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Go up and say that in Renfrew.

**Mr. Martel:** I did. Those beggars. What have they done besides a few goats in Sudbury? They gave Ernest his cheque and he picked it up down in Texas; they did a provincial building and they helped to establish 2001.

We had six years' warning. Even my friend the member for Sudbury knows that, because I believe he appeared before the select committee at that time and warned about having to have some diversification.

What have we done? My friend the member for Erie (Mr. Haggerty) was there. He knows full well that we had those warnings six years ago and nothing has happened. We have had an outflow of more than 10,000 people; we have had massive numbers on unemployment, 17 per cent; and we have 8,800 coming off by fall.

What have they done, really, and what is in the throne speech that is going to help us? There are a few jobs; we will get some. I give the member credit for the health stuff; it is going to create a few jobs; we appreciate it all.

Having had a six-year warning, what have we done to provide employment so our people will not have to leave the Sudbury region? There is not a thing in this throne speech that is going to help. Maybe it is going to come in the budget.

**3:40 p.m.**

Some 18 or 24 months ago my colleague the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren) and I started to try to put together a package of proposals. We sent them to the Minister of Northern Affairs in a document called *A Challenge to Sudbury*. Interestingly enough, most of the material in that document came from government studies at either the federal or provincial level, suggesting what could be done to diversify the economy in the Sudbury basin.

I have not heard from the Minister of Northern Affairs on what he thought might be functional in that proposal. He acknowledged the letter, but what in *A Challenge to Sudbury*—

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** We took it from Sudbury 2001, from the people in the community. It was

not a New Democratic Party document we worked from. We worked from a people document.

**Mr. Martel:** We said where it came from. Perhaps he will read the document. We said most of the material came from government studies.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Not an NDP manifesto such as came out of Regina a few years ago.

**Mr. Martel:** I want to tell the minister once again he is wrong. He should try reading his mail. We indicated in our report, *A Challenge to Sudbury*, that most of the proposals came from government studies. The minister can try to play around with it, but most of the stuff in *A Challenge to Sudbury* was from the Ministry of Natural Resources in previous studies by Tom Mohide, I guess it was, and a number of people. Some of the recommendations came from the select committee report. I think the Minister of Natural Resources was a member.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Why does the member not start building up Sudbury instead of knocking it down?

**Mr. Martel:** I am trying to build it up.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Gloom and doom for 17 years. Jim Gordon is here because guys like the member have been running down Sudbury.

**Mr. Martel:** The minister talks about gloom and doom. Ten thousand people have left the Sudbury area. There is unemployment of 16 or 17 per cent and 8,800 people are coming off the unemployment list. What is there to be joyful about? We put this study together to try to get a response from the government. It did not respond in 1978 when it knew what was coming and it has not responded now.

We always get silly claptrap about, "Do not be so much in terms of gloom and doom." The minister might go and talk to the people in Sudbury who are losing their homes. It is not one or two. Many people are losing their homes and many people will be forced to move out because there is no affordable housing for them. The minister should tell them they are full of doom and gloom. That has been his response to everything ever since I came to this Legislature. When it was occupational health, it was gloom and doom.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** We have done everything for Sudbury it has asked us to do.

**An hon. member:** The member is creating the gloom and doom.

**Mr. Martel:** I am glad that is all the city has asked for. I say that to the member for Sudbury.



**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** We have done it so well they sent a Tory member.

**Mr. Martel:** The minister should tell me what the government did.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** After 10 years of socialism they saw the light and sent a Tory member.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. The member for Sudbury East will please carry on.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The proof of the pudding is in the votes.

**Mr. Martel:** Yes, I know. That is why 10,000 people have left Sudbury.

We put this package together and we tried to get a response from the federal authorities. We sent it to Erola.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** It was a socialist paper.

**Mr. Martel:** With that type of response, we can see why the proposal has not a chance of seeing the light of day. That minister said it was a socialist paper. He has not even listened when I say most of ideas came from the government's own studies.

That has been the problem in Sudbury. I had one of the Tories at city hall tell me recently the reason they have not yet dealt with the paper is that it was a New Democratic Party paper. It was not. Most of it came from federal studies or provincial studies by this government.

Rather than deal with it, we get nonsense from the Minister of Northern Affairs that it is a socialist paper. What has the minister done to provide permanent, long-lasting employment and diversification in the Sudbury basin? One of the things we proposed was a nickel institute.

I am just going to deal with the proposal we put forward that dealt with the resource base. It is interesting that recommendation came out of a government study, I think in 1977, which said we should have a nickel institute in Sudbury that would undertake an independent geological survey of the mineral resources of the whole area. It would implement strategies for increased domestic production of nickel-based products.

In fact, the select committee followed up the Mohide report and in its report of 1978 recommended a nickel institute in Sudbury to find out and try to assess all of the resources in that great basin. I think the Minister of Natural Resources is trying to move in on this now to some degree.

**Mr. Haggerty:** Is that the Jewett report?

**Mr. Martel:** Yes, it came out with the Jewett commission. The select committee recommended it in an effort to try to ascertain what resources we had, the market requirements, and what we could do in terms of production or the

utilization of the resources of the Sudbury area here in Ontario, what we could use to replace the outflow of nickel in raw form.

Let me tell members about nickel. In 1981 Canada imported \$21 million worth of stainless steel cutlery and cooking utensils. We have the nickel and iron ore to make both products right in Sudbury. What do we do? The government of Ontario does nothing; it sits blindly by. It will not act as a catalyst to try to bring that about and create jobs. In 1981 we imported \$40 million worth of stainless steel surgical instruments. We could have used the nickel and the iron ore.

I am going to tell members how bad it is. Inco has to dump 100 million pounds of iron ore into the tailings area annually. Do members know why? The steel industry in southern Ontario says there is too much nickel in that iron ore to use it; so we annually dump 100 million pounds into the tailings area. Tell me our society can afford to throw away 100 million pounds. The steel industry says: "There is too much nickel in it."

Tell me a better way of using that material than to make those products from those commodities which we not only have an abundance of but where the iron ore has too much nickel to be used in rolling mills. We would not try to become the catalyst to do any of that, although little Sweden with nine million people is paramount in the world in the production of stainless steel.

We imported \$241 million worth of valves, \$43 million worth of heat exchangers, \$22 million worth of dairy and milk product plant machinery, \$92 million of X-ray equipment, and \$83 million worth of gas turbines and parts—all with large nickel content. What did we do? Did we do anything to act as a catalyst to try to alter that? The government had a warning starting in 1978 about the layoffs. Everyone knew in 1978 that Inco was going to get down to 7,500. It has done nothing.

When we make some suggestions that might be workable, many from the government's own studies, it just pooh-poohs it and says: "That is a socialist paper. So much for the people, to hell with them. Let them move. Let them lose their homes. Let them lose everything." So cavalierly do we dispense with it.

**3:50 p.m.**

We also suggested that if the government of Ontario were sincere about providing jobs, we would do the refining of nickel in the Sudbury basin. Falconbridge Ltd., which is not a small company—it is owned by Superior Oil—continues to send every pound of nickel to be refined in Norway. Falconbridge just laid off 1,400



workers, much more than a third of its work force. We take that nickel from the ground in Sudbury, put it in barrels and send it off to Norway to be refined. It makes a lot of sense, does it not? It creates that many jobs in Norway.

I have heard all the arguments. The Minister of Natural Resources argues that they could not get into the European common market. I do not know how the Russians got into the European common market, but they managed to wiggle their way in, but we cannot. Inco sends 35 per cent of its nickel abroad for refining. The government of Ontario has the power simply to enforce its own legislation, which says, "We will refine in Canada." But no, it continues to grant exemptions, and with those exemptions we continue to send out jobs.

For a number of reasons the government of Ontario must sit down and discuss with Inco the possibility of building a new smelter in Sudbury. One of them is that we are killing many of our lakes and rivers, if nothing else. I used to say a little prayer regularly that we could get the stack up high enough so the gas would go far enough south that it would start to affect parts of southern Ontario, and then we would find out just how serious the government was.

**Mr. Wiseman:** Don't start sending it down to Lanark.

**Mr. Martel:** I am trying to get it there. If it ever got to those areas where the fruit belt was damaged and so on, they would have to do something about it.

We need a refinery in Sudbury and we need a new smelter. From that new smelter we could establish, I hope, refining capacity sufficiently large to process Falconbridge.

I am told, again by the Mohide report or by one of the reports, that we have excess refining capacity in Canada now. We do not use that capacity; we send it abroad. There is something mad about a society that will not use its own resources in its own country for its own people but rather sends it abroad to Norway, to Clydach and everywhere else.

Falconbridge, which refines all the nickel from its mines in Ontario outside the country, has been granted yet another exemption from 1980 to 1989, authorizing the company to ship 100 million pounds of nickel-copper matte per year to its Norwegian refinery. The reason given is: "The capacity of existing refining facilities in Canada is inadequate to refine the applicant's nickel-copper matte, and the construction of a new facility by the applicant is presently economically unfeasible." I guess Falconbridge

blew a bundle of money a number of years ago on a company that never turned a wheel after they had built the plant. Inco has an exemption as well.

What can we do with a new refinery and a new smelter? I say to my friend the Minister of Natural Resources that I was somewhat amazed because there are many things we could achieve with a new smelter and a new refining capacity.

We send out all the precious metals. We are the third-largest producer of the platinum group in the world, and it all leaves Canada to be refined somewhere else, not here in Canada. I hope that with a new smelter and the refining capacity we could do it here and create some jobs here. If we refined all the nickel from Falconbridge and Inco, we could do the same. We could create jobs here.

But we will not do that and we will not even try to become a catalyst at least for manufacturing. If we sent some of the nickel out, then fine. If we were going to put only some of that nickel into the manufactured goods I suggested we were importing heavily, we could say it balances off. But we do not do that either. We ship it out raw or semi-processed and buy it back by the boxcarful as finished commodities. And we wonder why we have 1.5 million Canadians unemployed.

It does not take any genius to understand that, and it is going to get worse with the new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. There will be more factories leaving Ontario. The Ministry of Trade and Industry, I think, is now looking at 2,000 companies that are going to leave Ontario by 1988 when the full GATT agreement comes into effect. What are we preparing in that field? Nothing.

There is another thing we could do if we developed a new smelter. I hope the Minister of Natural Resources is listening, because when my friend the member for Nickel Belt and I suggested that we combine the sulphuric acid from the Sudbury area with the phosphates from Cargill township, the Minister of Natural Resources and the member for Cochrane North (Mr. Piché) made a little game of it. I have this stuff; I cut it out.

The member for Cochrane North said, "Well, that guy Martel wants to take phosphates from my area," and he got up in an indignant state in the House one day. The minister who promised the food terminal jumped up and said: "I agree with you. We are not going to take these phosphates out and send them down to Sudbury. We are going to send them to the food terminal to be processed."



However, Topp, the beggar, wants to send it out of northern Ontario totally unprocessed. That is what it says in an interview with Topp in Northern Ontario Business. He wants to ship it out unprocessed. That is great stuff, is it not?

We have the two resources there, the sulphuric acid that Inco would produce and the phosphates from Cargill township, to produce fertilizer. But my friend the Minister of Natural Resources gets up and says, "We are not going to allow it to be moved out."

One of the reasons Sherritt Gordon says it cannot do it in Canada is that there is an inadequate supply of sulphuric acid.

**Mr. Piché:** No.

**Mr. Martel:** I am glad the member said no. I have the thing right here: "Sherritt Gordon is also having problems lining up a supplier of sulphuric acid. CIL Ltd. has the northern Ontario market tied up through purchase contracts with Inco Metals."

Let me tell my friend the latest out of Inco. I am glad he put his foot in it. It says here, in a presentation made by Inco to the United Steelworkers, Inco's acid plant capacity is 850,000 tons. They cannot sell 400,000 tons of it. Tell me that Sherritt Gordon cannot get an adequate supply. Baloney! That is the latest; it was sent to me on March 5, 1984.

Between the member and the minister, they are prepared to see it shipped out unprocessed rather than to take two communities in northern Ontario that could work together to create a product in the north, employing people in the north. They are so picayune about it.

In the Kapuskasing Times—I do not know who owns the Kapuskasing Times; the member who owns it can stand if he wants to—there is an editorial headed "Leave Our Grass Alone." I do not know who penned that great article. I have a suspicion he might be sitting in the House in the third row, on the back benches.

**4 p.m.**

The editorial says: "Sudbury East MPP Elie Martel seems interested in boosting the troubled economy of Sudbury at the expense of this region." What a lot of claptrap. They feel they are better off if they leave it in the ground and do not have any jobs up in Kapuskasing or in Sudbury. At least we will settle it. We will all be unemployed rather than produce something in northern Ontario, a new product involving people from Kapuskasing and Sudbury. They might build it halfway rather than kill it the way they did.

Interjection.

**Mr. Martel:** As long as it goes somewhere. People could get rapid transit, as the Premier (Mr. Davis) promised in 1978 with the layoffs at Inco. None other than the Premier came to Sudbury and said, "What we need to look at here is rapid transit from Sudbury to Elliot Lake." We are still looking, and Elliot Lake is being built up in leaps and bounds. Most of the people have left their homes in Sudbury to buy new homes in Elliot Lake. The Premier said, "We could build a rapid transit system across the country for about 55 miles." That was more smoke to mesmerize the good folks.

What becomes frustrating is that we have potential, yet we get into this petty nonsense. We hear the Minister of Northern Affairs talking about "the socialist paper." We hear the Minister of Natural Resources saying: "We are going to keep it. We don't believe in sending it out." I wish the Minister of Natural Resources was as determined and tough about nickel not being sent out unrefined as he is about phosphates leaving the Kapuskasing area. He said: "I will not allow it to be moved out. This is government policy." Why does the minister let nickel out when he will not let phosphates out? He is full of phoney-baloney excuses.

**Mr. Piché:** I do not know where the member gets his information, but it is not correct.

**Mr. Martel:** I have the information before me, from an interview with Mr. Topp in the paper put out by Mr. Atkins. I heard the Minister of Northern Affairs using his name in vain a while ago. There was an interview with him headed, "Alan Pope Assures Piché Jobs Won't Be Exported." I wish he would assure the people of Sudbury the jobs will not be exported by allowing nickel to go to Norway under another exemption until 1989.

They will not even plan; they will not think. They would rather get involved in petit bourgeois nonsense than try to become the catalyst in developing a complex that could achieve a number of things: reduction of the emissions; total refining of nickel in the area; refining of the platinum group of which we are the third largest producer in the world; and a reduction in emissions by taking the sulphuric acids from Sudbury and combining them with the phosphates from Cargill—halfway, if that will satisfy the minister—and producing a product that would keep people in northern Ontario.

It goes on, just in this one area I am going to talk about, a complex for refining. If we built a new smelter in the Sudbury basin, there would be



new technology developed in emission control. If the production of that equipment, because it was developed in Sudbury, went on in Sudbury, we could be selling that technology and creating jobs for youngsters in northern Ontario, maybe for Hydro equipment, or perhaps up in Wawa because of the emissions from the plant there; all across this province and for export. We would make up for some of the jobs that have disappeared by creating a new industry.

If we built that new smelting capacity, we would be developing new technology for environmental control. That is the sort of package the member for Nickel Belt and I tried to put together to present to the government. Each and every one of them has totally ignored it. This government and the federal government have systematically refused to look at that possibility or to become the catalyst.

If the government of Ontario wanted to be helpful, it could say to Inco: "We know you do not have the money today. We know you are running in the red and have been doing so for the past three or four years. But we are prepared to put up loan guarantees."

Better still, that new convert who sits in the Tory front benches, that greatest of right-wingers who used to be the Treasurer, none other than the former Treasurer, the member for Muskoka (Mr. F. S. Miller), was in Sudbury recently. He was there to announce a 37.5 per cent equity participation by the government of Ontario in a company in Sudbury. That fellow was on the road to Damascus recently and obviously he was struck by a bolt of lightning.

At the luncheon he said: "I know what my friend Mr. Martel is going to say. 'Is there nothing these beggars will not nationalize?'" They are into it. If socialists say, "Take equity participation," it is horrible. If the Tories do it, it is fine. We finally convinced the jolly Miller that he should take equity participation, and he has done so for 37.5 per cent.

I am suggesting that if Inco is in financial trouble and cannot build that smelter, the government should say, "We will provide the loan guarantee." It would be better still if they said: "We will take you in as a partner. We will take a little equity."

We could develop that total complex, which could create many jobs in the long run as well as creating jobs for construction workers in the short run. It would replace the unemployment there with employment.

The government of Ontario has had six years to look at it. It has had nearly two years to

respond to our paper and there has been nary a whimper.

The other thing I wanted to talk about, which ties it all together, is the production of mining equipment. When I was on the select committee in 1974, we finally got the Conservative members to sign. None other than the former Minister of Industry and Trade, the member for London South (Mr. Walker), signed that paper. He said, "We have to produce mining equipment in Ontario."

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** How can the member say that?

**Mr. Martel:** The minister signed it as member for London South.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** How can the member raise these old things?

**Mr. Martel:** I just keep remembering them.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** I will go back to some of the member's remarks.

**Mr. Martel:** I wish the minister would.

We called for it then. We have an annual trade deficit in mining equipment of \$750 million. We are the largest importer of mining equipment despite the fact that we are the largest producer of mineral wealth in the world. Does it make sense when there is that much potential?

Again we need someone to act as a catalyst. We have simply not seen this government act as a catalyst in any major way. A little Band-Aid here, a little Band-Aid there, a little summer work, a winter job.

I received a letter today from a young graduate of Cambrian College. He said: "Mr. Martel, I have finished a three-year course. I got a job at \$32,000 a year. I am now laid off. I am down to \$11,000. I am destroyed. There is no future."

My office in Sudbury is inundated with young and middle-aged people looking for a job. It is heart-wrenching to go to the office to meet these people, because one knows the only solution is for them to forgo their homes, pick up their families and go somewhere else where they might find jobs.

This government could act as the catalyst in a number of ways, utilizing the abundance of natural resources we have for the benefit of the people of this province. It would rather sit by and tinker with it.

**4:10 p.m.**

As I said, the minister came in and said, "We will take 37.5 per cent equity." Why do the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt), the Minister of Natural Resources and perhaps the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) not come in and say to



Inco: "We definitely need this smelter and everything that could be developed from it. We will provide loan guarantees"? It would take a number of years to get it going, but it would provide hope for young people who do not have a job or the hope of a job. Let us look at it.

Sudbury has been in existence for 100 years. In 100 years we have not had one company that produces something from the resources that are extracted. If the government thinks it is going to happen by itself, it is crazy. It is not going to happen by itself. The government is going to have to act as a catalyst in some way, it is hoped with participation by the federal government. The region cannot do it.

Various ministers have attempted to hide behind the Tom Davies reports in the three emergency debates we had last year on the situation in Sudbury. I listened to it ad nauseam. We are waiting for Tom Davies and his committees to report. I have a copy of a report being prepared by Tom Davies. My colleague the member for Nickel Belt quoted extensively from it last week.

It is interesting what they have adopted. When they appeared before the Macdonald commission, I read their presentation. Many of the ideas we had in A Challenge to Sudbury were plagiarized from Ontario and federal government studies. We brought them together, threw in a few of our own ideas and presented it. The majority of those ideas came from Ontario and federal government studies.

They are saying the government could act as a catalyst. The region cannot create the employment that is necessary; it does not have the capacity to do it.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** They are trying. They are doing everything in their power. Give them credit for what they are trying to do.

**Mr. Martel:** That is precisely the point I am making. The minister makes the point for me. They have worked like mad creating short-term jobs; I will give them credit for that. But they cannot provide the long-term security that is necessary. That is the minister's responsibility. He sits on his haunches and says I am being pessimistic. He sits there doing nothing.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The member is knocking them all the time and pushing them down. He should build them up a little. He knows what I mean.

**Mr. Martel:** Pushing who down? Where is this guy from? Do the members have any idea?

Can the minister tell me what he has suggested in diversification for long-term benefits since he

became a minister? His attitude is, "Just let it ride."

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The list is endless, right across Ontario.

**Mr. Martel:** The list is what? In long-term diversification in the north? Let him tell me where. Let him surprise me.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The member has blinkers on. He should go around northern Ontario and see what is happening.

**Mr. Martel:** Can the minister tell me what this long-term diversification of his is? Can he give me a few examples of the diversification?

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** The member does not want to listen anyway.

**Mr. Martel:** Will the minister tell me what he has done in Sudbury? Come on. Let him tell me about the diversification.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** Does the member want to hear it?

**Mr. Martel:** Did you say I do not want to hear it?

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** He should go around northern Ontario and see for himself. Things are happening.

**An hon. member:** Tell us.

**Mr. Martel:** Yes, tell us. I have read some of René Piché's—

**Mr. Piché:** When was the last time the member was outside Sudbury?

**Mr. Martel:** What?

**Mr. Piché:** When was the last time he travelled the north outside Sudbury?

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Martel:** René, I was in your area three weeks ago at a conference on cancer. Were you there?

**The Deputy Speaker:** The member for Sudbury East will carry on. I remind the member that we are all mindful—

**Mr. Martel:** I was going to say, Mr. Speaker—

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. We are all mindful that we should refer to other honourable members either by their titles, if they are ministers, or by their ridings. That might help the debate and lessen the interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** He needed a rest anyway.

**Mr. Martel:** I needed that little respite. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Mr. Bernier:** I would love to stay, but I have to go.



**Mr. Martel:** I wish the minister would go, because we are not going to reach him anyway. It is hard to permeate stone. One cannot get through it. Nothing sinks in.

I have heard the guttural remarks through interjections, "Doom and gloom." When 10,000 people leave an area in five years, there is something to be gloomy about. When 8,800 people are going to go off the unemployment insurance list by September, that is something to be gloomy about. My friend can say it is gloom and doom.

What have they done, knowing six years in advance it was coming? They knew it. I believe the member for London North (Mr. Van Horne) was on the select committee on Inco layoffs.

**Mr. Van Horne:** No.

**Mr. Martel:** No? There were three or four members, anyway. To what end? Everyone knew.

Before I switch to another topic, I say to the government, for God's sake, look at A Challenge to Sudbury. If government members do not agree with it, let them respond. If there is something in there that is worth while, let them pick it up and run with it, and become the catalyst for developing northern Ontario. I hope the member for Nipissing (Mr. Harris) agrees, because he has felt the problem in Nipissing.

I want to talk briefly, while the Minister of Tourism and Recreation (Mr. Baetz) is here—

**Mr. Van Horne:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: I want to clarify the confusion about my being on the Inco closures committee. I sat on the select committee on plant shutdowns and employee adjustment. By the way, that committee did make a report to the Legislature that I do not believe was acted upon. Maybe that proves the point for the honourable member.

**Mr. Martel:** It helps. I thank the member.

I want to talk to my friend the Minister of Tourism and Recreation. Back in 1972 or 1973, the minister will recall, the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) had a study instituted by his friend, one Bill McMurtry. The study made certain recommendations. A number of years later, we had another study; a very good study, by the way. I thought the McPherson report was excellent. If we could implement the attitude that was in the report, if we could ever get it across to the public, we would have a great game out there again.

I am not interested in government intervention in the sense that we intervene and pass laws. But I ask the minister responsible, when have we had enough? That is what is worrying me. We have

had two major studies in a 10-year or 12-year period. There has also been Larry Regan's study out of Ottawa. I am trying to get a copy of that now so I can have a look at it, because I believe Regan indicated there were serious problems. I know the minister got Syl Apps trying to do some work to curb what is going on.

I do not know how long we can go on. That is my concern. It is a question I raised with the minister yesterday. If we know, for example, that blind-siding is causing aggravation and serious injuries, I am not sure why we do not say, "You will adopt this and we will prevent it." It is as simple as that. I understand the complexity of that maze out there. I have done nothing for a week and a half but talk to people on this issue. My phone has not stopped ringing. I say that honestly. Parents, legal officials, just about everyone has called me.

I understand the complexity. How many branches are there? There are at least 10 official leagues. We have church leagues, we have leagues that operate outside the church and outside the other leagues. We have a morass, and everybody wants to be a big frog in a small pond. They all want their own rules applied in their own way. No one wants to give an inch in terms of uniformity, of regulating the game; they all have their own little interpretation. I really do not know how one gets to it. That is why I am talking to people every day.

I do not how we say to volunteers, "It makes more sense to do it this way, so everybody is on the same level." We are doing things in a uniform fashion for the benefit of kids. There are too many coaches, although I hate to say it. They are all applying for the job that became vacant today from Harold Ballard. Every one of those guys think he is going to the big leagues—not every one of them, but a lot of them, unfortunately; I have seen some good coaches.

**4:20 p.m.**

We were in Elliot Lake two years ago—it was my oldest boy's last year of juvenile—and we were getting our clock cleaned. Not physically; I think the score was 14 to one, and a couple of our kids had been hurt.

All of a sudden some guy from Elliot Lake, the juvenile league, throws a punch. Do members know what that coach did? He got him over to the side and said: "You go to the dressing room and take your equipment off. You can play in the second game tomorrow, but we do not tolerate that." The second kid said to the coach, "If you are going to do that to my friend, I am quitting



too." The coach said: "Fine. You go in there, take your equipment off and you go home too."

The coach came around afterwards and we had a long chat. I said, "You know, I really admire what you did." He said: "It is really nothing to be admired. I am here so those kids have fun. They are not going to the National Hockey League. It is sport, it is fun and we should be developing the skills."

I thought to myself, "If every coach in this province had that attitude, the refereeing would not be nearly as tough as it is." People can blame the referees all the time, but as a former teacher and principal I can tell members that I set the tone for the school at the beginning of the year. I used to say to the teachers, "For the first month be tough, and then ease up; because once children know how far they can go, they will go to that point and not beyond."

I say to those people who are coaching that if the players under them know they can go only so far, if the coach is not going to stand stick-swinging and cross-checking, then it is not going to happen. It will certainly reduce the job of the referees. It is a very difficult job those people have: different leagues, catering to one set of rules in one game and another set of rules in another; it is just a horrible situation, and they are mostly volunteers. I know some of them are up tight because of what I said, but one has to jolt them, because the injuries are there.

I was amazed, though, at the responses from those people who are responsible for the league, because they want to maintain it; they want to continue this system. I say to the minister, it is long overdue.

How do we form an umbrella group; or if we cannot form an umbrella group how do we put all the pieces of the puzzle together to be able to reach coaches? There is no other way we are ever going to get it, I would suspect, until we have a group that represents everyone and we sit down together and try to work out agreements. I do not know how the minister is going to do it.

I have suggested that the game is a game of hockey, it is a sport and a skill and we should get rid of bodily contact up to age 16. Let me quote from Father R. J. Cullen, one of the many letters I have received. He is a hockey coach at Assumption College in Windsor. He said:

"I was very interested in the media reports of your disgust with current teen-age hockey theory and practice. The Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations has been attempting to encourage skilful hockey as an alternative to rough hockey. The enclosed paper was sent to all

high school hockey associations in Ontario last October. The leagues that tried to implement it were not completely happy with the results."

I just want to read one paragraph about the problem as they see it.

"The problem: Hockey is a game, not war nor a vocation. Success at all cost is not necessary. It should be a game of skill, not physical confrontation. The emphasis should be on the movement of the puck, not the crashing of bodies. We must praise the player skilled in his skating, passing, stickhandling and shooting, not the player who can eliminate these skills by interference, charging, holding or hooking. According to the rule book, hockey is not by nature a contact sport. Rules limit the use of the body. To describe a hockey team as physical is a contradiction. When the player starts chasing the man instead of the puck he is on the wrong path."

How much sense is there in that paragraph? "When the player starts chasing the man instead of the puck." I have to respond to Father Cullen, because those high school teachers who are trying to move to that sort of game will have a better game than we now have.

People have said to me: "You are going to stifle it. You are trying to kill it." What about the statistics about dropouts in the last seven or eight years? I recall when the last study was done—the minister might correct me if I am wrong—I believe there was a drop of about 150,000 participants over a three- or four-year period. Why?

In my own case, my three boys quit hockey. They said to me: "It is not fun, Dad. It is not fun because we have an attitude that we are going to win in what in too many areas is at all costs." We do not have an attitude that first and foremost it is a sport for youngsters to develop. It is the finest game on earth and we do not need the mayhem that is there.

I have said the age level should be 16 for bodychecking. I say that for good reason. I recall from my teaching days that some of the most gangly kids were the 12-, 13- and 14-year-old kids who shot up suddenly. They do not have co-ordination. When they were smaller, they might have had better co-ordination but when they start that big jump at ages 12, 13 and 14 that can see them grow a foot or 18 inches in a year or a year and a half, the co-ordination is not there.

Have members ever been to a school dance where there are grades 7, 8, 9 and 10 kids? If they had, they would see the kids are unco-ordinated. Some stalk around like giraffes because they do not have co-ordination. That comes. What I am



saying is we have to wait until they are at an age where that maturity and skill is there.

I suspect one can teach body-checking the proper way quite easily once they have acquired all the other skills such as shooting, passing, stickhandling and picking up the puck properly without having to look at the ice all the time. It does not seem to be very difficult to introduce the rest. Part of the problem today, of course, is that a coach says, "Go out and hit them." Do members want to know why a coach says that? It is because he does not know how to teach them to give a body check.

Many coaches cannot teach. Many coaches do not get down to the level of the kids they are dealing with. That is important. I think Elmer Lache said that in the McPherson report. I think Lache was reported to have said: "Too frequently we deal at a level that is beyond the kids. We do not get down to their age level and their thinking."

The kid goes out, he has his stick, he does not know what to do. He does not know how to throw a hip check; he does not know the first thing about a hip check. He does not know the first thing about checking, let alone getting his body into the act. We tell them to go out there and they go out there and what happens? They take a run at somebody and the stick is in the air; it is all over the place.

Over this series of questions I have been trying to stay away from the kids as much as I can because they become the victim in both ways, the victim of injury and the victim because they are the ones who perpetrate what is going on. Left to their own devices, I do not think one would see nearly that much.

**4:30 p.m.**

I was on a show the other night. The minister heard it. One of the commentators took a poll in front of the whole team. He asked, "How many want bodychecking?" Every kid put his hand up. The coach went around and asked each of the kids on his own how many wanted bodily contact. Every kid said no.

There is tremendous peer pressure on kids and great pressure from parents. As an eminent doctor told me last night, "Too many parents want to live again through their kids." They put tremendous pressure on kids to win. Nothing disgusts me more than to go to an arena and hear somebody yelling, "Kill him." One can go to any arena any day in Ontario and hear that. It is not all the parents who do it, but it is enough of them to influence the kids.

I was talking to a parent last night. He told me that on his team there is one father to whom even the kids on the team now respond when he is yelling at his son, telling the father to shut his mouth because he is so adversely hurting the child on the ice.

I say to my friend the minister, I am not sure how much longer we as a society are prepared to tolerate some of this stuff. I do not think it takes a lot of change in the rules, by the way. It might take a lot to change the attitude. It is the attitude that is the basis of the problem. About three rule changes could do it.

The one I mentioned yesterday and recommended from the doctors' report is no blind-siding or hitting from the rear. Tonight or tomorrow night watch National Hockey League hockey or any other hockey and one will see somebody being hammered from behind as he is picking up the puck. That should be an infraction. In the high school league, they suggest that should be a major infraction.

I talked to a doctor in Kitchener yesterday and he said to me, "There is nothing more cowardly I know of than somebody hitting someone from the rear." The members should think about it for a moment. There is no absolutely no defence against it. It is time we said to people at all levels of hockey, "We as a society will not tolerate it another day."

One does not have any more right to do that in a hockey arena than on the streets of Toronto, Sudbury, Ottawa or the smallest town in the province. One does not have a right to hit someone from behind who is defenceless. I say to my friend the minister, we do not need any more studies on that rule; we need a little action.

The other rule I would change quickly combines a series of rules. I say to the minister, my phone has not stopped ringing. A doctor who works in the emergency ward in a hospital here in Toronto said: "For three years I have been in the emergency ward. I have seen more than enough kids carved up with a hockey stick."

The helmet protects them, but the game is played on the ice, right on the ice surface. That is where one chases the puck. Then there is cross-checking. That is why I suggest getting rid of bodily contact. I do not think the kids are being taught. We have this silly little rule that if one does not spread his hands when he shoves someone it is apparently not an infraction. It is not called cross-checking. The hands are like this all the time. Go to any game and one will see it. Kids do not know how.



The stick is an implement to play the game; it is not a weapon. So I say we cannot tolerate the use of the stick. I am sure we will still have accidental injuries. Kids being what they are, they may lose their balance and the stick may come up accidentally; that is vastly different. I am trying to get at those things that will minimize the number of accidents we have.

We somehow have to get to that group of people out there, the parents—starting with the coaches, I think—who could make it a totally different ball game. We should get them down to the kids' level and create in them an attitude that they are there to help the kids have fun and to develop the skills of passing, shooting and stickhandling. They should encourage the kids that it is nice to win, but the game is not to be won by intimidation or whatever other way one might suggest to achieve the goal of winning.

In the final analysis, the real winning is not getting the cup or a trophy; it is the entertainment, the development of the body and the pleasure of the game. We have to get the referees to use the rules that are there and call them. I do not think it will take very long. The league officials cannot go after the good referees who call the infractions. Too frequently, a referee who is trying to call a good game has everybody down his throat yelling, "He is spoiling the game."

It depends on what one thinks the game should be. He might be spoiling the fights or the mayhem. I used to say to kids, "You never score a goal from the penalty box." I have yet to see that happen. In the final analysis, I have seen more teams lose more games because they have had a man in the penalty box than they have won by intimidation.

We have to get to the parents. I really cannot understand the thinking of the parents. It is their kids who are getting hurt; it is their kids who are quitting because it is not fun; it is their kids who are subjected to the pressures—pressures being put on the kids by the parents. Surely our role as parents is to provide kids with the opportunity to participate without fear of injury, without intimidation and all that goes with it.

I intend to continue to pursue the minister over the next number of weeks on a number of questions in this field. I tell him that now in advance, because I do not think I am prepared to let it drop as I did after the McPherson report. I wanted to see what would happen. I am getting nervous because in Sudbury there is a fellow from the Northern Ontario Hockey Association who wants to reduce the age limit for body

contact to eight-year-olds. I am sure the minister heard that. So help me, it blows my mind. These kids can barely skate as it is and we want them to get involved in body contact.

I say to the minister, maybe in the final analysis—I will save that for another day. I want him to think about what I am going to ask him over the next couple of weeks. There is no sense giving him all of the good news. I hope he comes down heavy; not that I am interested in legislation, but I am tired of the litany and the excuses by league officials that they cannot change it.

**4:40 p.m.**

One has only to look at what the Europeans have done to us in ice hockey in the last 10 years. Maybe we had better start taking a look at our game. It is the greatest game, but even little Sweden is now cleaning our clock regularly. Very shortly, the Finns are going to be doing it and their population is four million or five million. People say they run their leagues differently. They play their game differently too. I am saying we have to get back to skills. If we make a few moves—not in a lot of areas—we might bring that about.

The only other thing I want to speak very briefly about is a problem this government is heading for in terms of speech pathology and what people will be expecting from Bill 82 next fall. At present 24 students are enrolled at Western University and maybe 28 at the University of Toronto in speech pathology. In Sudbury the shortage is critical. Kids are going without speech pathology in the school system because the boards cannot hire the speech pathologists to deal with the children. If they were institutionalized, these children would have speech pathology. I am talking about mentally retarded children who are going to be, and now are, in a more evident way in the educational system.

In Sudbury there are whole classrooms for which there are no speech pathologists available. The member for Nickel Belt and I met with the authorities in Sudbury. They worked very hard to try to get some people. The separate school board got a speech pathologist half-time. They worked very hard at it. Waiting lists in the hospitals are as long as one's arm. People who have had strokes will have to wait for 63 months before they get some speech therapy because there is a 63-month waiting list.

I raised this matter in December with the Minister of Colleges and Universities (Miss Stephenson), suggesting she had to put some money into that. I said they had to have some more places available at the university level in



order to be able to provide what is expected from Bill 82 for children. Sudbury serves as an example of not being able to get a French-speaking speech pathologist anywhere. I suggested to the minister we needed to have those places available for universities.

To my horror she said: "This is a democracy. Kids are still entitled to do what they want to do and go into the courses they want to go into." I did not even know what she was talking about. I was not suggesting the government force students in. There are just not enough places available. There are no speech pathologists being taught in French in the province at all. The member for Cochrane North, who needs a speech pathologist in his riding now—I happen to know that—will not have a bilingual speech pathologist.

I believe one might be going there shortly for three or four months in the summer. That is interesting. That student is coming from Quebec to work in Sudbury at Laurentian Hospital for four months. If she wants the bursary, she then has to leave Sudbury, which does not have a French speech pathologist, in order to send a speech pathologist to Kapuskasing.

When I raised this in the House, I said to the minister, "We need them in French, we need them in English, and studies in Sudbury show we need them in Cree." She said, "We cannot force students in universities to study that." I am telling her that all kinds of students are applying.

The member for Lake Nipigon is spending vast sums of money as his daughter is taking speech pathology in the United States. Can members imagine that? We have a critical shortage, a bill coming into fruition next fall, and we will not even have the speech pathologists to provide speech therapy. We cannot do it at the hospital level either. When the question is raised in this House, once again, as always, the government drags in a red herring and says: "We cannot force students to take speech pathology. This is a democracy." How idiotic!

All I am saying is that as Minister of Universities and Colleges she should find out how many speech therapists we need in this province and then sit down with the universities to determine how we could best produce the people we need in order to do the job Bill 82 is expected to do come next fall.

**Mr. Laughren:** It is time for a cabinet shuffle.

**Mr. Martel:** That is the sort of attitude one gets on speech pathology. When one talks to the Minister of Northern Affairs, he says, "You talk about doom and gloom." We have a throne speech of 30 pages that does a bit of analysis and

has absolutely no substance to its cures. I hope the member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Ramsay) is really clouting them around in the head on economic development because his city, I suppose, is not much better off than we are in Sudbury.

**Mr. Laughren:** They have a higher unemployment rate.

**Mr. Martel:** Worse off?

**Mr. Laughren:** Yes.

**Mr. Martel:** I ask my friend the minister, has he ever reached those colleagues of his, even the one from northern Ontario who says that over here we paint a picture of gloom and doom? All I had from the Minister of Northern Affairs this afternoon was a picture of gloom and doom. We said 10,000 people have left Sudbury and 8,000 more are coming off the unemployment insurance list. I do not know how many are on welfare now, but there are no summer work projects coming out of the federal government—apparently just \$40,000 worth. He said, "You are a purveyor of gloom and doom and you have to have heart."

**Mr. Laughren:** He says the same thing about the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay).

**Mr. Martel:** I hope the Minister of Labour will take the Minister of Northern Affairs around. Maybe he could use a hockey stick on his head. Just beat a little common sense into him.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** That is violence. The member was talking against violence.

**Mr. Martel:** It is not a hockey game. Maybe the minister could beat a little sense into him.

If that is the attitude in the cabinet, I ask the Minister of Labour, what hope is there for his people who are unemployed and are not going back to work, or for the nickel industry where they are not going back to work? If government does not become the catalyst, what is going to happen? Are we just going to let it drift?

I suspect, as I take my seat, that if the throne speech is any indication of what the government intends to do, we are in serious trouble.

**Mr. McLean:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise to support the comments my colleagues on this side of the House have made in support of the throne speech.

As we are aware, the great throne speech this year has outlined many great activities and some great initiatives which we will soon see outlined—

**Mr. Laughren:** Throw the trained seal a fish.

**Mr. McLean:** The member should not be talking about his buddy that way.



These activities will benefit our constituents throughout the province and emphasize the government's commitment to keep Ontario economically and socially healthy. We will be providing for a continuation of Ontario's economic recovery and ensuring we can make the best of it. Those are the two major thrusts of this year's speech from the throne. Obviously, the member who spoke before me did not touch on very many of them.

What we will see in the coming weeks and months will be an example of this government's decision to continue to approach the challenges of economic recovery on a very broad front. For example, we can look to a number of new developments in the area of skills training and job creation for our young people.

**Mr. Laughren:** Give us the details.

4:50 p.m.

**Mr. McLean:** If the member will just pay attention, he will learn very quickly.

As has been pointed out by the government, improvement in employment for young people will not take place quickly. Right now it is not taking place quickly enough for those of us on this side of the House, and members opposite have taken that same position. That is why we will shortly see increased funding for the Ontario career action program and expansion of our youth employment counselling centres. To ensure all activities are carried out with the highest possible efficiency one minister will be made responsible.

What we will be seeing is not only the allocation of increased resources to meet this challenge, but also an effort to make sure these resources will be used in the most efficient way possible. One thing we on this side realize is that the creation of meaningful permanent jobs will come about only with the continuation of help for our small and medium-sized businesses. This fact was also addressed in the throne speech, and I want to mention some aspects of this challenge.

Starting at the human resources end, we will see new efforts to provide skills training and retraining. The field of retraining is particularly important in these times of industrial transformation. Many of us know people who have lost their jobs because of technological change, but we also realize that, to remain competitive, we must learn to adapt to technological change and even to use it to create more new jobs. It may be a difficult task, but it is one in which we must and can succeed.

The times demand, on the technical side at least, that the graduates of our educational and

training systems be able to meet the needs of our business entrepreneurs. If we succeed in this, especially in meeting the needs of our small and medium-sized businesses, we will be well along the way towards creating more full-time employment.

For these same businesses to succeed, they must be able to market their products. In certain aspects of marketing, this government is able to provide worthwhile assistance. In particular, I was pleased to see additional support will be given to the export success fund. To date, Ontario has done well with the programs that are in place to aid the export of manufactured goods, agricultural products and knowledge. The export success fund is one project which, even though it is still new, has either reached or exceeded the highest expectations of those involved with it.

Because our domestic market is not large, our businesses must look to exports if they are to grow. Yet, for a variety of reasons, many small and medium-sized businesses have not seriously considered exporting their products. Often these companies have not bothered to see if there is a market for their goods outside this country.

I believe it has been this kind of thinking in recent years, along with the recession, that has led to a decline in Ontario's share of world trade. The export success fund was set up to reverse this trend. At the time the fund opened for business, only one in five of the 14,500 manufacturing firms in Ontario was directly engaged in exporting. While this was a significant percentage, it was obvious more could be done.

In particular, our small businesses and medium-sized enterprises faced four problems when it came to thinking about exports: first, the cost of researching a new market; second, the problem of repackaging or even modifying the product; third, the difficulty in developing a merchandising program for the product; and fourth, the problem of knowing how to prepare a bid for capital projects.

Let it be known that the third party is not interested in listening to the debate that goes on in this House. They are more interested in a lot of things that take place outside of this House. Let the record show there is not one member here.

The export success fund was designed to help with the costs of overcoming these problems. Essentially, there are two parts to the fund. The first exists to help manufacturers' trading houses, export marketing consortia and trade associations. This part matches the exporters out-of-pocket marketing costs, dollar for dollar, up to a maximum of \$35,000 over a 12-month period.



The fund is specifically intended not to compete with the federal government's program for export market development nor with any other Ontario program. The fund is tailored to meet the individual needs of the applicant company, and it is probably for those two reasons that in its first five months of operation the export success fund has received almost 300 requests for assistance totalling over \$5.5 million.

When one considers the project started only last November with \$1 million, it is an understatement to say the program has been well received. It is no surprise that in February the announcement was made that the program would be receiving an additional \$4 million. As the program enters its sixth month this week, it is already a successful example not only of co-operation between Ontario's smaller businesses and the provincial government but also of the close co-operation between Ottawa and Queen's Park. While I will agree that our relations with Ottawa should be better in many areas, I am glad that in this particular endeavour relations are excellent.

Those of us who have grown up with a federal system of government have come to accept it as normal. However, residents of other countries, particularly when they come here to do business for the first time, are often confused by our system of government. The fewer programs and levels of government they have to deal with, the easier it is for everyone to do business.

Similarly, it is to everyone's advantage that Ontario's external trade activities are restricted to the least number of programs, especially where they perform similar functions. It is likely that this is the reason the throne speech announced the integration of the Ontario International Corp. and the Ontario Educational Services Corp.

The Ontario International Corp. is the second part of the export success fund and it is for a different client group. This part of the fund provides loans as opposed to the matching grants under the export success fund itself. The Ontario International Corp. provides loans of up to \$50,000 to groups such as consulting engineers, architects, management consultants, contractors and constructors of capital equipment. The loan is made on the condition it must be repaid if the applicant succeeds in getting the business.

As members can see, the export success fund is not an expensive giveaway program, nor is it a costly make-work program. Rather, it is an example of this government's trust in the product and services of our small and medium-sized businesses and their trust in this government.

I will speak briefly on agriculture. According to the throne speech, this is not the only area in which the government will be concentrating. Agriculture has always been important to the people of the riding of Simcoe East and myself. I was happy to see the throne speech contained a number of proposals which will help that sector of our economy. As I have been speaking about exports, I would like to state my full support for the decision to intensify our efforts to export our agricultural products to the United States.

**5 p.m.**

The United States already buys half of Ontario's food exports, but there are at least two reasons for us to intensify our efforts in that area. Quite simply, the first is that economic recovery is proceeding swiftly in the United States; the market demand is there and so is the ability to pay.

The second reason is that even though the United States is the largest importer of Ontario food products, we still have an enormous food trade deficit with that country. It would be foolish to think of eliminating this deficit, but we should continue to try to reduce it as best we can.

Another benefit to agriculture will come about through the creation of an advisory council on agriculture, which will be able to examine and make recommendations, mainly on long-term issues affecting agriculture. Also, the creation of the commercial crop development fund will aid Ontario agriculture in extending the list of Ontario products available for market and in making our agricultural sector healthier.

Agricultural research and development has benefited Ontario greatly in the past. It can be shown that for every dollar we have invested in research, we have received a payback of \$40. Research has enabled more Ontario farmers to provide a wider variety of products in the last few decades.

One example of the benefits can be seen in the development of short-season-maturing hybrid corn varieties. That one development has allowed for considerable expansion of Ontario's corn-growing area out of the southwestern tip of the province. It might be hard to imagine that just 30 years ago corn was grown in quantity in only one small part of our province and that Ontario was a major feed grain buyer. Today, Ontario exports corn.

Another way in which Ontario businesses generate revenue from outside the province is through tourism. It is important both to the province and to my riding.



In 1982, tourism ranked as Ontario's second-largest provincial export. It is estimated that by the end of this century, it will be our largest. Promotions such as the "Ontario—yours to discover!" campaign have been successful and profitable. Research shows that the promotion has reached a 68 per cent level of awareness in the US market.

The United States is our biggest and closest tourist market. The throne speech fully recognized that. We will see many more tourists in Ontario this year. As the Olympics take place in the United States this year, it is important that we increase our efforts to draw American tourists to Ontario.

Ontario has a record of supporting its tourism industry with a wide range of programs. I fully support that assistance and its programs.

In the great riding of Simcoe East, one travels up Highway 400, built in 1954, which comes into the city of Orillia, Stephen Leacock's great memorial area, to the Trent-Severn waterway, which is on the boundaries of my riding. It creates for the tourists of this province one of the nicest areas to visit. Not only that, but one can take the cruises to the Thirty Thousand Islands, Bosley Island and Giants Tomb Island, close to where the Premier (Mr. Davis) lives. It is a nice area and a great attraction for tourists. We have tourism people in the area who have cruises that attract people from all over the world.

The other highlight of the great riding of Simcoe East is the Martyrs' Shrine, which the Pope will be visiting next September. We estimate there could be between 500,000 and one million people in the area at that time. I am sure it is one of the most historic landmarks in Ontario, along with Ste. Marie among the Hurons. These are great tourist attractions in the Midland area.

In another part of the riding, there is the great waterfront development that has taken place at Orillia; it is a \$3-million development which I can see from my great patio doors, about half a mile away.

We also have great ski resorts in the area which attract many people from this great province. Members must remember that approximately half the population of this province is within an hour and a half's drive of Simcoe East; that is a great advantage for an area that has a mix of tourism, agriculture, manufacturing and great tourist resort areas where people come not only to visit but also to retire and who love to live there.

I should also mention the highway system that our minister has created through the great riding of Simcoe East, within the horseshoe area. If it

were not for the incentives of this government, we would not have all these things.

I have mentioned just part of what we see in the throne speech, which reflects the government's intentions.

With those brief remarks, I want to say that—

**Mr. Boudria:** More, more. Tell us more about your riding.

**Mr. McLean:** I could go on for several hours to relate some things about my riding that the honourable member would be interested in hearing.

However, in conclusion, I want to say that the speech from the throne this year has outlined a broad set of priorities and initiatives for this government. I encourage all my colleagues to support these measures and to ensure their swift passage when they are placed before us in the coming months.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Cousens):** The member for London North.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Who is that man?

**Mr. Van Horne:** That man is the member for London North, and it is I. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to take part in this debate. I am very pleased too to represent the fine folks of London North.

Very briefly, I want to reflect on something that upset me in this debate last week. I refer to a comment made by the member for Mississauga South (Mr. Kennedy). In fairness to him, as my colleague the member for Kent-Elgin (Mr. McGuigan) said, it would seem the remark was from one of the Conservative speechwriters and not from the honourable member himself.

I just cannot imagine the member for Mississauga South, in his own heart of hearts, suggesting that the opposition really does not have any role to play at all and that we should not have the audacity to question government policy. That is paraphrasing what he said, but it is the essence and thrust of what he said, that we had audacity to question government policy and that we were always negative.

On one hand, the right to rule is part of the democratic process for the party that gets the majority, but we all know and must be reminded of the role of Her Majesty's loyal opposition, which is to question and be negative. I expected more from a government speechwriter than we got in the presentation made through the member for Mississauga South.

**5:10 p.m.**

Having said that, I would like to do as most members have done in participating in this debate



and reflect briefly on two things: the speech and the community I represent. Each of us in this chamber is proud in his or her own way of his or her own community. That could not be truer than it is for me and for London North.

At one point, London was represented through two seats, London North and London South, and it was politically very "blue." As a matter of fact, one of the former Premiers of this province came from the riding of London North, and his Treasurer came from the riding of London South.

Things changed back in the mid-1970s, coincident with the addition of the London Centre seat. The leader of the Ontario Liberal Party has represented that part of the community now through three elections and will continue to do so.

At one point in 1975, with the addition of the third seat, all three London ridings became Liberal. Now in 1984, two of the three ridings remain Liberal. I submit to members that the reason for that can be found in part, at least, by looking at the makeup of our community and at the way it has grown.

We have changed from a rather staid community—I would not call it stagnant, but in terms of growth it was stagnant until the end of the Second World War. We saw some minor development between 1945 and 1960, but things really started to move when we had a major annexation within our community. We started to add industry and the population that goes hand in glove with industry to make it move.

With the new people coming into London, transferring from other parts of Ontario, from other parts of Canada, from the United States and from Europe and Asia, we began to realize quite a different mixture in terms of socioeconomic background and political leanings. I think that is true not only in London but also in other communities across southern Ontario. If one takes a look around Metro, one can find proof of that. The growth and the influx of new people have changed the way the community is represented politically.

In my community, we have an interesting cross-section of people. We have a mixture of industry, both heavy and light. We have one of the finest colleges in all of Ontario. Fanshawe College is one of the original institutions in terms of the thinking and planning that went into our community colleges.

In addition, we have its predecessor in post-secondary education, the University of Western Ontario, which has served our community, our province and our country so well

over the years. At that university, we have some of the finest scholars, students, teachers, researchers and facilities one would find anywhere.

Just to give members an example, we have a wind-tunnel testing and research facility, which is in the completion stage now at our engineering school. It is under the direction of Dr. Allan Davenport, one of the most renowned engineers in the western hemisphere.

Associated with our university is one of the finest medical schools. Close by is the University Hospital, which works hand in glove with the medical school. As members know, after the passing of the former Premier John Robarts, we heard it announced that a stroke unit would be made a part of the University Hospital complex. That, too, will be world-renowned when it is complete.

We have some of the finest neurological surgeons. I could go on and name names for quite some time and do an injustice to those I would leave off the list because they all, each in his or her own way, have done so much for medical science in that fine community of ours.

In the community I represent we have some of the same problems that face people in other parts of Ontario. We are blessed with a slightly lower unemployment rate, but the fact remains that we do have unemployment. We have sick people, many people who need such things as organ transplants, particularly kidney and heart transplants. There are people in need.

We have other things in London that are bothersome or worrisome to us; things that are facing other parts of this province. They are items, factors or concerns that are common throughout this province, problems we had hoped the government would spend a little more time addressing in the throne speech.

Let me move from my community, one that has been described as the Forest City, one of the prettiest communities in Ontario. We are fortunate in that community, but we are facing some of the same problems I am going to allude to now.

In the throne speech themes were touched on, some of which had been hinted at or alluded to prior to the throne speech through ministers, public pronouncements or press releases. I have one or two in front of me that indicate the government was concerned enough about the theme that it might have gone into some detail in the throne speech, and yet we find that detail lacking.



I will give the members an example. I have in front of me a news release or communiqué from the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, dated March 7. The heading of this news release is "Ethnic Minorities are Most Vulnerable to Unemployment, Says Susan Fish."

"Toronto—The recent recession has left newcomers and young people most vulnerable to unemployment, says Susan Fish, Ontario's Minister of Citizenship and Culture."

That is not really a news bulletin to us. We have been aware of and concerned about that for some time on this side of the House. We have been offering suggestions to the government. Yet the throne speech really did precious little to address that problem.

I made reference to the community I represent in my opening comments. I want to go back and expand a little on the theme of youth unemployment, more so than the minister did.

I have in front of me a letter addressed to the Premier (Mr. Davis), dated March 2, 1984. It comes from a constituent of mine. I do not intend to reveal her name, but I think the content of the letter should give all of us in this chamber an idea of the concern this lady has; a concern seen time and again with other parents in this province, including those in my community.

**5:20 p.m.**

The letter to the Premier reads in part: "I read with interest the report in the *Globe and Mail* of February 24 of your speech to the Empire Club the previous day. As a taxpayer, I am outraged at what I observe to be a blatant waste of educated, bright, young Ontario human resources developed at our expense. I am in a position to observe first hand the impact of high unemployment on this group as I watch my son and his contemporaries struggle, and usually fail, to obtain even an interview for employment.

"Let me give members a profile of my son, and how he has prepared himself to try to be a productive member of our society. He is not an atypical product of the fine educational system in Ontario. His academic abilities were recognized early by the London Board of Education where he was chosen for advancement classes, enriched classes to nurture bright children.

"He graduated from Oakridge Secondary School as an Ontario scholar with an number of athletic awards. He obtained a position on the Canadian élite wrestling team, and coached after school at a local public school. He enrolled at Queen's University in the honours Bachelor of Commerce course. No one was accepted who had less than 82.5 per cent in grade 13 that year.

"After graduation in May 1983, he spent the summer at Laval University in French immersion. Since September 1983 he has been actively seeking employment. During that period he has been able to obtain only four first interviews. The following experiences are but a few of those that he encountered.

"Most job opportunities are not publicly advertised, but advertised only by word of mouth, some contemporaries obtaining positions because they know someone in a position high enough to hire them without having to compete with hundreds of others; companies with hiring freezes who refuse to accept résumés; companies which accept résumés but have no positions, nor any in the foreseeable future; answering newspaper ads in which there are 200 to 300 applicants, most with extensive work experience."

Keep in mind this person has just been through the educational process but has not had an opportunity. He is seeking a first-time job. Another experience this young man ran into: "Getting an interview with a large Canadian company and being told that he should have no illusions about the entry level jobs they were filling because they had already interviewed 20 people with extensive work experience, and it would take them"—the company—"six months to train them"—and they could not afford that six months' training time. "Being asked in an interview why he would want to learn French." What a sad commentary.

The letter to the Premier goes on: "In the light of the above experiences, he tried to take advantage of the Ministry of Industry and Trade's Ontario international marketing intern program. He researched Ontario export manufacturers and has sent out letters to these companies commenting on the program and suggesting that he qualifies for consideration. This tack has been less than successful.

"When and if his letters are answered the following responses are typical." Here is a typical response: "We are making positive moves in the export market; however, we have ample personnel in place to develop and service this marketing function within our own company. Thank you very much."

Here is another response: "At the present time we do not have a suitable opening for your qualifications." This response makes one wonder if the letter was even read. Here is another typical response: "I regret to advise you that we do not have an appropriate opening at present, nor is such an opening anticipated in the foreseeable future." Another typical response: "We have no



positions available for 1983 graduates." I am sure the same thing will be said for graduates in this year of 1984.

The Globe and Mail report that was mentioned in the opening of the letter quotes the Premier as saying he is not worried that young people are turning away from the Conservative Party because of high unemployment. The writer of this letter suggests that the minister should reconsider this view in the light of the fact that with every unemployed, educated young person there are two angry taxpaying parents who have encouraged and supported him as he honed his professional or technical skills only to be faced with an almost nonexistent market.

I could go on with the documentation this one parent has presented to me. This parent included the son's résumé, which is very complete, showing work experience—unfortunately only in part-time or summer jobs. He has held jobs as an aquatic supervisor in the Kingston Memorial Centre, which the Minister of Health (Mr. Norton) will be aware of, I am sure; on the trail crew at Lake Louise; and as a lifeguard for the Public Utilities Commission in London, Ontario. The commission in London is responsible not only for hydro and water but also for parks and recreation; it has one of the finest groups of recreation facilities—rinks, pools, etc.—of any community in Ontario, and this boy was good enough to be a lifeguard with the commission.

In spite of that, in spite of having the degree, in spite of taking the French immersion and sundry other things, he is still unemployed. He sent the résumé of one of his classmates along to me, and the story is identical.

So we are disappointed. We are disappointed because on occasion the Conservative Party here in Ontario has taken the lead from the opposition; it has leaned on the members of the official opposition and the third party to find some kind of material to use for developing its programs. There are many people over on this side of the House right now who will recall the involvement of our former leader, the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon), in the development of education policy, which, shortly after it was pronounced, became government policy.

We anticipated, or perhaps even vainly hoped, that the government of Ontario would take the lead from our party from the presentation we made a year ago on the job training program for young people here in Ontario. We did considerable good work and came up with a large number of very substantive suggestions for youth employment programs.

What do we find in the throne speech? Barely a ripple, barely a bit of thievery. Plagiarism would have pleased me; it would have pleased me if the government had taken our research documents, which were made public when we presented our youth employment program. The press commented on them favourably right across the province.

We spoke to educators—and by the way, if the government does not get the educators back on side we will be eternally grateful; they are to be commended for having a Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) who has antagonized every educator in this province. We talk to them and they say: "Hey, the program that you people in the Liberal Party were talking about had some substance to it. We would have been pleased to be involved."

We did not see it, and it is really too bad that the government chose to back off and give lipservice to this very critical issue.

I want to move on to a few other themes. I was not going to comment on the testing right at this point, but the appropriate press clipping just fell out in front of me, so let me get into that theme for just a moment or two.

**5:30 p.m.**

I do not know of any single statement made in the throne speech that has caused more confusion than the statement made on testing. Within hours, possibly even minutes, after we left this chamber at the conclusion of the throne speech, the hall was abuzz with many of the visitors here. All of the visitors who were past the age of 20 had, as all adults do, some direct or indirect involvement with education; all adults are experts in the field of education. Every person in this chamber, whether he or she has taught before, is a teacher in his or her own mind. The member for Oshawa (Mr. Breaugh), who spent some time in the classroom, knows full well what I have referred to.

The hall was abuzz and we were wondering just what the minister had in mind. Between then and now we are still not sure. Questions have been raised in the House and reporters have asked questions of the minister and the former minister who is now the Premier. The former Minister of Education, the member for Scarborough North (Mr. Wells), has remained rather interestingly and strangely silent. I would have thought the reporters, media folks and parents would be bugging him a little bit.

Whether the government party realizes it or not, the member for Scarborough North was the most respected Minister of Education that party



has had in a long time. The name Mr. Wells—and I guess I can do it in this context—was thought of in very high terms by parents, students and teachers. They all knew who he was, what he stood for and where education seemed to be going.

That is not the case now. I can go on and nauseate. We have one ministry representative, one fairly high up in the ministry, saying: "These tests are not new. They have been kicking around for three years. We really do not know how to use them. We really do not know what the minister plans to do." If the right hand does not know what the minister is planning to do, Lord help us.

Here is another headline: "Betty Gets F for Clarity." After meeting with media people to clarify the situation—

**Mr. Nixon:** F for failure?

**Mr. Van Horne:** She got F for clarity. If I said failure, maybe that was a Freudian slip, I do not know. At any rate, let me submit that she got an F for clarity. The people of this province deserve just a little bit more than that. I think we deserve just a little bit more than what we get from the minister from time to time. What we get from the minister is most often a rather brief—and if I can use the vernacular—snarky, vitriolic reply which does not help to clarify these situations.

Educators have an interest in testing. Be it good or bad, there is an interest there. We do not know what the objective of the testing is. Is it to be a test to assess the system? Is it a test to assess the teachers within the system? Is it a diagnostic test? Would that not be wonderful; a diagnostic test to see how the young person is developing in language and computational skills, the two basics of any education. If that were the case, there would probably be a lot less concern. But we do not have a clue what she is talking about.

I wanted to submit that the government has a responsibility to clear the air on this testing thing. I would urge the members opposite, who may on occasion bump into the minister at their caucus meetings or wherever, to try to reason with her. I hope they have better luck than we do because we do not get much from her. I would submit to members there is a lot of concern out there in the community. We hope to have that concern resolved through some statement or some clarification.

I want to slip into another theme which is near and dear to me, again partly because of my community.

Mr. Speaker, as we pause for the changing of the guard here, I know the rapt attention of your replacement will soon be directed at me.

I have been beating a drum for some time. It is a drum we now find our Lieutenant Governor beating on and the media making constant reference to. I am referring to organ transplants. In one of Canada's major papers, I believe the *Globe and Mail* of today or yesterday—because I have been travelling I get my newspapers a little mixed up—there is an article by a writer and science oriented person in Manitoba referring to transplants. It is one of a couple of dozen articles that have appeared within the last few weeks.

We hear stories daily on the radio. We see the faces of people, young and old, on our television screens who are desperately waiting for organs to help them carry on living. I have brought with me files I have been developing over the years on this theme. I presented a bill called the Human Tissue Gift Amendment Act in 1982. I presented it again in 1983 and introduced it to the House last week. I will continue to keep bringing this theme in front of the Legislature because it is one that has to be addressed.

In the speech from the throne, we find a cursory reference, but I do not think the government can ignore the whole theme of organs and transplants much longer.

My simple submission is the vast majority of Ontarians are qualified drivers. Those of us who are drivers all have drivers' licences; at least we should have. If we do not and the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) or the Solicitor General (Mr. G. W. Taylor) finds out about it, there will be trouble brewing. We drivers have licences with a provision on the licence to indicate our desire that part or all of our bodies be made available in the event of our passing.

I wonder how many of us in this chamber could take out a driver's licence now, hold it up and say, "I have checked off that I wish to have my eyes and my kidneys donated," or whatever. Most likely a lot of people in this chamber have not bothered to complete that simple form.

What I am suggesting in the amendments to the Human Tissue Gift Act is that this simple form of itself—let me hold it up; if I cannot convince my colleagues who are elected members, maybe I can convince the pages that when they get to be old enough to drive and have the opportunity to fill in that form, they should take the initiative to make part of themselves available if something unfortunate happens to them.

This is not enough. What I am submitting is there are more people registered as eligible recipients of Ontario health insurance plan service. Virtually everyone in Ontario is plugged into the little OHIP computer.



5:40 p.m.

Again with the pages, they are part of families and so dad, wherever he works, is registered through the OHIP office in the little computer. If someone becomes ill and there is a bill that has to be paid, the bill is processed. They find out that Jason, Trevor, Michelle or Cynthia is an eligible recipient.

What I am suggesting is we use that computer service to permit all eligible persons who are able to make a decision to indicate whether they want parts of their body to be made available for transplant. Obviously, we would not be talking about babies because they would not be able to make that decision, but babies might have a decision made on their behalf by someone who would be legally allowed to make a decision. All those listed there would indicate whether they wanted parts of their body made available for transplant.

That way we would have a much broader base. As it stands now, people go wanting. Although the intention is good, these licences are inadequate. I am suggesting to the government it should take the initiative. Last year a cabinet member announced that Dr. Stiller from the University Hospital in London would be heading a team to investigate the theme of organs for transplant.

That doctor announced a development within recent days. I cannot give the details of it, but essentially it said they were going to establish a society that would allow anyone who wanted to be a donor to get a membership in that, I suppose by writing or telephoning a Zenith number and saying, "I, Mr. or Mrs. So-and-So, choose to be part of your organ society. Please count me in." Again, I do not know the details of it, but that would seem to me to leave a lot to chance.

I admire what the good doctor is doing and I will work as hard as I can to accommodate his theme and the people who need help. That is really what we should be about in this place, to put our partisan politics aside on occasion and get on with the theme of trying to come up with a solution.

Given the concern in the media and given that the Lieutenant Governor himself has expressed the deep concern he has for people who need organs for transplant to stay alive to help carry on productive lives, when we got to the throne speech I would have hoped we would have found more in it, but we did not.

I had another theme some time ago, and that was immunization. It was my view that young people entering the school system should be

immunized, particularly for such simple and yet devastating diseases as measles. I bugged the government, as members will recall, to a point where immunization became mandatory. That only happened within the last couple of years. I am proud to have been part of that needling, urging, teasing, cussing process, which opposition is, finally to have seen this change brought about.

That is one issue resolved. We do have fewer people with measles and, as we know, the side effects of very serious measles cases can be people dying. We can have all kinds of awful side effects, but I hope we will not see that as much, if at all, because of the immunization program. If I keep bugging the government long enough, we will get to the point where we do something more to accommodate the need for organs and organ transplantation.

I may do no more right now than convince these young people who are here, at times being bored to death by all of us, or perhaps just convince one or two of the opposition. The member for Oxford (Mr. Treleaven) may see the light as he drives home in the next night or two and be inspired enough to go to the minister and say it is time we listened and time we made a change. Who knows? I still believe in miracles. Am I not silly? I hope I am not silly. I hope I do convince some of the members that it is time for a change.

I want to go on to another theme the government virtually ignored this time around. We know the new Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) is determined to present a budget that will, in all its splendour, provide job opportunities for the people we in the opposition have been harping about and that will not see taxes raised further, that is sales tax increases or what have you. We wait with bated breath for this to happen.

We know the Treasurer about right now is getting input from any and all. We witnessed his speech late last fall as a first, in my recollection anyway, in the Treasurer's process of talking about government finance and ultimately coming out with his budget. We look to the next few weeks, whenever it is the budget comes in, to see what good things are there.

In addressing himself to that, I hope he and the government are cognizant of the concern of all of us in so far as the deficit goes. We do not have to go back more than 12 or 14 years to a point when the government was in the black. Times have changed for a variety of reasons. No one is saying Ontario singularly and in single-handed fashion has done this all by itself. We are all aware of the



pressures of the international marketplace, of the things that go on when we get into government demands for social service and international companies. The list goes on and on. The problems become intrinsic, complicated and everything else. We are aware of that.

Sometimes when we shout and scream about this from the opposition benches and we get responses from the government members that imply we are so stupid we seem to have fallen off a turnip truck or something, they should give us credit for a little bit more intellectual acumen than they do on occasion. We are not totally mindless about the problems they face. We are asking them to address themselves to some of these problems on occasion in a more obvious way, in terms of what they say about deficits and how they are going to accommodate deficits. We do not know that. I guess the throne speech is not the place to do that. I do not know why, but it seems that is the case.

Let me submit that part of our responsibility in reminding them of the deficit is to remind them of the need to do things in a little more frugal way on occasion. If times are tough and if we are talking about six and five and about restraint and telling civil servants they are going to have to hold the line, the newspapers get in a flap about members' living expenses and have a great ball with that sort of thing.

If they are concerned about that, I ask them just to go back to how they felt the day the papers came out with the story about the members' accommodation allowances and how they reacted. Some of our people knee-jerked. They practically got whiplash when they opened up the paper. They snapped themselves into a little turtle thing and said "It was the other guys, not us." Come on, let us all face up to it.

**5:50 p.m.**

If there is concern about that, how can we answer questions about something like this souvenir publication from the Ministry of Revenue? The heading on the front cover page is The Road To Oshawa. I see my colleague the member for Ottawa East (Mr. Roy) has just arrived and I have splattered his seat with papers. I apologize to my colleague. I guess in the minds of the Ministry of Revenue people it is important that they moved from A to B, but it is hardly something they should spend a whole lot of money on, is it?

Who are they telling in this publication with its eight or 10 pages and over 50 pictures, most of them with the minister in them? It is obscene. What does it tell us? Here they are in one picture

with a hole in the ground and a crane in the middle. Here is another one of a nice building with three flags. The minister with his hard hat on is standing upstairs behind the podium which has on it a big Ontario trillium.

How can they allow this thing to happen? Virtually every ministry is guilty of coming out with one or two of these dandies a year. It is blatant. Aside from that, it is printed in blue and black, in double colour. Of course, blue is significant to the people on the government side. We could not get along without a picture of the Premier and the rest of the gang.

That is irresponsible. I do not know if that sort of thing should be condoned. If I were a cabinet minister trying to justify restraint and holding back and forth in this House day after day and went to a cabinet meeting—those guys must have wonderful caucuses and cabinet meetings. If they were in our caucus, however, they would be told straightforwardly that this is a blatant waste. They should do a little kicking around and not let their colleagues get away with it.

I am going to take a delight in showing some of the good burghers of London North how government has restrained itself once more. Imagine the delight they will take in saying, "Yes, is it not wonderful that they kept it down to only 50 pictures, most of them with the minister?" If they are going to talk about tough times and restraint, they should not carry on with that kind of stuff.

I will not get into the bicentennial thing because I still have not figured it out. All I know is we have announcements almost daily. Would that government members could see the world as we see it on occasion. When somebody on the government side gets up and makes a wonderful announcement about the bicentennial, a handful of us get a kick out of picking out a minister and watching his or her reaction to see whether he or she is cringing or smiling at what is going on.

Are they really into this bicentennial and convinced? If they had the opportunity to put a mirror in front of their faces or if I had my secret camera and could take a picture, they would be amazed at how they look when the bicentennial is discussed. In one of the headlines it is ridiculed as being a Tory bash. They talk about restraint, but I wonder how they can get away with pushing this stuff in the way they do. Maybe some day some of them will have enough influence on whoever is calling the shots there to say, "Why do you not slow down and put the money where it should be, in good programs and cutting back on the deficit?"



Another item that barely gets play—we do get the odd ripple on Suncor—is when we get into deficits. I picked up a publication that was delivered to me not too long ago, on March 12. It is the 1983 annual report of Trillium Exploration Corp. That is in just three colours with pictures and everything else. The maps are in four or five different colours—wonderful stuff to look at. But once we get by the colours and put our minds to the numbers, we see gross expenditures of \$45,442,637 and we start to become a little twitchy if we are concerned about money being spent.

I am sure they are all anticipating hitting the big mother lode and seeing this little corporation becoming wonderfully productive and getting Ontario out of its debts, and we will all live happily ever after. I am not convinced at this time. Again, this is an adjunct to the Ontario Energy Corp., something that very seldom gets a play in this chamber. What is another \$45 million?

Since the little commemorative booklet on moving is responsible for the expenditure of maybe only a few thousand dollars—and I do not know how many thousands of bucks one would spend on a thing like that—relative to the expenditure of Trillium Exploration Corp, I do not know that it is a fair comparison. But I do say they all go into the same bag of things I am not sure we can afford in this province at this time.

I have the choice of concluding these remarks or perhaps seeking the adjournment and carrying on after supper. I am not noted as a very verbose person. I very seldom speak for more than a half or three quarters of an hour; so I would think that perhaps anything I had of a positive nature has been submitted.

Let me then conclude rather than carry over into the evening. The Minister of Health would be quite upset if—

**Mr. Roy:** If the minister annoys you, carry on. We will just adjourn and come back. Bring him back.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Will you be the after-dinner speaker?

**Mr. Van Horne:** Do you want me to? Will you be back after supper?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Me? I will not be here.

**Mr. Van Horne:** I have some good stuff on the Ministry of Health that would probably take an hour or two.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** You can submit it in writing and table it.

**Mr. Van Horne:** Oh, no, I prefer to get the minister's reaction right here.

On occasion we charge at the member for Brock (Mr. Welch) and get him going on the theme of the place of women in this community of ours. Oftentimes we get in response a lot of fancy hand-waving, a few red faces and a few heated words, but I am not convinced yet that we as a parliamentary group have done those things that could and should be done to assist the lot of females with respect to work opportunities, remuneration, reward, positions of responsibility and the whole theme.

Again, as I am wont to do on occasion, I would submit that perhaps there is more to be gained by a pooling of thought on this than by a constant harping at each other, pointing fingers and making accusations back and forth. Surely there is enough good resolve in this chamber of ours and surely there is enough determination to go along with the intellectual capacity to come up with some programs and some new roads that would be much more productive than the ones we have travelled so far to accommodate females in our province.

I have talked generally about the throne speech and the disappointment I feel. I have made reference to the fine community I represent. I want to underline again the need for government to direct itself to the deficit, to the financial concerns we all have, to youth unemployment, to the whole theme of organ transplantation; and now that we have the former Minister of Education (Mr. Wells), back again, to clarifying the testing question and the issue of schools generally. I have submitted to the chamber the concern that educators have about which way education is going in general terms. The testing theme is only part of a theme of education that presents concerns to all of us.

Let me stop at this point and conclude by presenting the hope that all of us will put to good use whatever time we have left in this chamber, be it a week or two. I do not know when the Premier is going to feel the need for a mandate and issue the writ, but whenever he does, my lawn signs are ready, the four by fours are ready and the committees are all set.

**Mr. Wildman:** Is the member nominated?

**Mr. Van Horne:** That will happen in another week or two, and we will be all set. In the meantime, let us put our minds together to make this province a better place in which to live.

The House recessed at 6 p.m.



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# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Tuesday, April 3, 1984

Evening Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Tuesday, April 3, 1984

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

## THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, in one sense I am happy to participate in this debate on the speech from the throne. I suppose it does give a person the opportunity to bring the problems, as we see them, before the government and to implore it to take some action on those problems.

In another sense, I frequently feel it is something of a waste of time. Very few people, if any, apart from those who are in the House, and those numbers are not usually great in an evening sitting, will know what I or, for that matter, any other member of this House says when taking part in the debate.

Most of all, I suppose one feels it is very futile to attempt to move the government from its position. We know it is hopeless. It does not matter what we say or what points we make, the government is going to stay on its course.

There is not much point in debating the speech from the throne per se, to deal with items in that speech, because there is very little there. There is tinkering but not really any new programs of substance. Most of it is window-dressing.

**Mr. Stokes:** Reruns.

**Mr. Swart:** Yes, reruns and pious statements that will never reach fruition.

To me, there is only one fundamental issue in our society in this province, and for that matter in most of the other provinces in this country in varying degrees, and that is the state of the economy.

I do not think there is much question that most of the other problems in our society stem from the state of the economy and the fact that we have quite massive unemployment. The economy is running at only 75 per cent of capacity and therefore the funds are not there to do the things that perhaps even some of the members on that side of the House would like to do.

We can talk about community and social services. We know the desperate plight many

people are suffering, particularly the single-parent families, because of the inadequacy of the social programs at this time, whether that be family benefits or welfare. For instance, in this coming year the welfare budget in Niagara region is being increased by 25 per cent. That in itself is an indication of the seriousness of the problem, but because they are increasing it by that amount to deal with the emergency and the desperate situations, they have to and do cut corners wherever they can. The result is a lower standard of living for those who are on public assistance.

We also know this state of the economy has a tremendous effect on housing. I doubt whether there is a member in this House, whether or not he has a constituency office, who has not been approached by numbers of people in his constituency who are losing their homes because they are out of jobs and can no longer keep up the mortgage payments. The state of the economy means that municipalities, because of the calls on their limited revenues, are not going to proceed with the public housing they otherwise would proceed with. All our housing suffers quite substantially because of the state of the economy.

That is also true of health services. I hear the Minister of Health (Mr. Norton) and, for that matter, other members of the government, including the Premier (Mr. Davis), stating over and over again that we have the best health service in the world. I want to tell the members, that is a sham. If we have the best health service in the world, I do not like to think what the situation is in many other jurisdictions.

In the Welland area, apart from unemployment, there is no single problem that creates as much public interest and condemnation as the health situation, and particularly the shortage of hospital beds in that area.

I raised this in the House the other day with the Minister of Health. I pointed out to him that it is common practice at Welland County General Hospital to have people in beds in the halls. That is normal. Most of the time there is somebody in a bed in the hall in the Welland hospital. On weekends, particularly when they bring in patients on a Sunday evening to be ready for operations on Monday or Tuesday, there are several patients in beds and some on stretchers.



Even after they have their operations, there are no beds for them and frequently they go back on stretchers for one, two or three days.

A recent editorial in the Evening Tribune puts the situation in perspective fairly well. I want to quote a few paragraphs from this editorial, which appeared in the Evening Tribune in Welland, dated Thursday, March 22, 1984. There has not been as much space given to any other issue in the Welland area in the last three months as has been given to the rather critical situation in our hospital with regard to the shortage of beds and the shortage of staff to service the beds we have. Let me quote from this editorial.

"People who are admitted to a hospital usually expect three things—fast emergency help, stability as soon as possible, and comfort in the hospital when the emergency is over. None of these things can be taken for granted in Welland today...

"Last Thursday, nine people waited all night for hospital beds after being treated in emergency. They waited on beds in the emergency department's observation room and on stretchers in the hallway. Two of the people whose relatives had to wait a long time to get beds were so upset about it they contacted the Tribune.

"One woman who waited in emergency was shuffled from bed to bed in those days that followed because of the shortage. Another man was injured while lying on a stretcher in a hallway for hours waiting for a bed. Hardly comfort, or stability...

"The hospital's executive director, Frank Barton, said he didn't think the hospital could have handled a traffic accident last week, if six or eight people had been injured...

"It would be wrong to blame the hospital. Hospital staff work hard to make sure patients are inconvenienced as little as possible. Hospital administrators have long complained about the shortage of beds, and feel they are not being supported by the health council, which makes recommendations to the Ministry of Health about the needs of the region."

The editorial concludes with this paragraph:

"Something must be done about this situation. If the hospital cannot get the attention of the Ministry of Health by itself, maybe the citizens of Welland should help by telling their representatives and the provincial government they think hospital services should be a priority."

That comes from a paper that is a long way from being considered radical. The hospital bed situation in that area is desperate. The irony of it all is that they have 60 beds closed down. They

made some of that floor into administrative offices, but there are still 30 beds that could be opened up, as the administrator says, within weeks to provide that very necessary hospital service.

**8:10 p.m.**

I am glad to see the member for Carleton (Mr. Mitchell) here, because he was apprised of this situation when he was down in Welland not long ago.

Many of the active treatment beds are occupied by people who should be in long-term care, but there is no place to put them. Although the health council in the region now has recommended an additional 75 or so beds to be located in Fort Erie and Niagara Falls, the construction has not even been approved yet and so has not started. It will be at least two years before we get those beds. Here we have 30 beds in Welland that could be opened up immediately to relieve this situation, but the government simply refuses to act.

It got so bad that the Conservative association in my riding asked for a meeting with the hospital board. The member for Carleton, as parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Health, was down there. I am not sure exactly what he told them, but the report in the paper next day said there was little hope given that there would be any additional beds opened up soon in the area.

**Mr. Stokes:** Why did he go down there?

**Mr. Swart:** He was down on another legitimate purpose. The Conservative association in the Welland-Thorold riding took the opportunity to meet with him.

I must also point out, although the paper may have backed off a little bit, that this meeting was in camera; the press were not allowed in to this meeting. When there is a public concern, it is public business. Those kinds of meetings should be open to the public, who are suffering because of the lack of beds.

I hope the parliamentary assistant will give some very real further consideration to recommending to the minister that those 30 beds be opened up immediately. They are desperately needed. There is no question about that.

**Mr. Renwick:** Does the member for Carleton want to give that commitment now?

**Mr. Mitchell:** I went down and met with the people and listened to their concerns so I could report to the minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Swart:** In any event, this matter has been taking the most space in the paper of any issue over the last several months, and well it should.



There was one man who drowned in a bathtub at the Welland hospital last summer. I am sure the parliamentary assistant will have heard about this. At the time the doctor said it was suicide. He was a 55-year-old man who was in the psychiatric wing. There was a coroner's inquest on him, and the St. Catharines Standard reported correctly as follows:

"The psychiatric ward of the Welland County General Hospital needs more nurses, a five-man jury recommended unanimously at the end of a three-day inquest into the bathtub drowning of a 50-year-old Sherkston man. After deliberating for 90 minutes, the jury rejected a ruling by Welland coroner Dr. Jacques Dubois that Gordon Jinks committed suicide on September 19, 1983."

Here is another significant little item in that news account: "The jury also said that a patient alarm system that has not worked since 1976 must be repaired." It had not been repaired because it would have cost \$60,000. The hospital administrator also says this alarm system, although it is of some benefit, is not foolproof. Since 1976, they have not been able to find the \$60,000 to repair the alarm system that might have saved this man's life. Now, both the hospital and the doctors are being sued by that family for negligence and wrongly declaring it to be a suicide.

In the situation with regard to the Welland County General Hospital, it should be pointed out that of all the class B hospitals in this province, the Welland hospital has the lowest operating cost. The cost at Welland last year was \$187 per day. The average for Ontario was \$246 per day.

The Welland hospital was operated much more cheaply than the average for Ontario hospitals, but it gets only the same five per cent increases, or whatever the case may be, as the other hospitals. Here is a hospital that has been the most efficient of any hospital in this province, and it is denied the right to open 30 more beds even though all of the evidence found by anybody who has examined it said these beds should be opened.

I am not going to dwell any more on that hospital situation in Welland, but I hope the parliamentary assistant will have some discussion with the minister and perhaps something can be resolved to get at least those 30 beds opened.

**Mr. Mitchell:** We never promised miracles.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Swart:** It is going to be a miracle if no one else dies because of the inadequate number of

hospital beds and the service that can be given in that hospital now. I think the minister should move on it.

I want to point out that once again this situation is largely a result of the state of our economy. I am not at all sure but that this government likes the opportunity to cut back on the expenditures of hospital and health services. It never did like the public health system, and I am sure it is glad to get the opportunity to cut back on it, but to a very large extent this is a result of the economic state we are in. It is the unfortunate and the poor who are carrying the burden in this.

There was an article in the *Globe and Mail* on March 22, 1984, headlined "Poor Bearing Main Burden of Job Lack." It stated:

"The poor are bearing more than their share of unemployment, a Statistics Canada survey indicates.

"The special study, titled *The Link Between Economic Hardship and Labour Market Problems in Canada*, shows that 25 per cent of the people living below the poverty line were out of work some time during 1981. That compares with 16 per cent for those living above the poverty line.

"These findings appear to contradict government denials that using high interest rates to fight inflation, even though it increases unemployment, is putting the burden of the battle on the backs of the poor."

That shows it is the poor who are carrying the main burden created by the unemployment situation we have in this province.

In Niagara, we know the effects of unemployment almost better than anyone else in the province. During the last couple of years our average unemployment rate has hovered around 17 per cent; sometimes it has been as low as 13 per cent and at other times it has been as high as 21 per cent.

**8:20 p.m.**

As though that was not bad enough, less than two weeks ago an announcement was made that the Hart and Cooley Manufacturing Co. Ltd. plant in Fort Erie was closing down. The plant had been there for 80 years. Significantly, it was bought last summer by a large US corporation and now is being shut down. Just 18 months ago the plant had 105 people working there. A few jobs are going to be opened up in another branch of the plant in Oakville, but most of those people will be out of work.

Everybody across the province knows that just a few days ago Inco announced it is eliminating the jobs of 490 people in that area.



In the Niagara region in particular, but as a province and as a nation we are in the midst of a very serious depression and it does not matter how it is dressed up. An awful lot of people are hurting and the level of unemployment and underemployment is intolerable in this nation and in this province. When 12.3 per cent of the people are out of work in Canada and something like 9.9 per cent are out of work here—those are the latest figures for this year—we should be ashamed that this is the situation in a place like Canada.

Although we say we have 12.3 per cent out of work, or 9.9 per cent in this province, the fact is, of course, that many people are working now. They have been laid off at plants, have taken much less remunerative jobs and have moved down below the poverty level because of that.

It is true that neither the Conservatives here nor the Liberals in Ottawa—and the other way around, neither the Conservatives in Ottawa nor the Liberals in Ontario—are really going to do anything about it. None of them believes in real economic reform; none of them believes in the degree of economic reform that is needed; both parties support the status quo, and the status quo simply is not working.

**Mr. Nixon:** Democratic socialism does not seem to be the thing that is selling.

**Mr. Swart:** We will come to that in a minute.

Last fall Pierre Berton spoke to the graduating students up at McMaster University and he said something I think is worth repeating here.

“‘Imagination and hard work will be needed to pull the country out of the economic woes it is now suffering,’ warned Berton. ‘I hope you will remember,’ Berton told the more than 560 graduating students, ‘if we are going to prosper, we are going to have to change the system.’ He warned, ‘The thing I am frightened of is if you do not change the system, the system will change you.’”

There are an awful lot of people in our society, whether they are young people unable to get jobs, whether they are people who have lost their homes or whether they are the farmers who have gone bankrupt, who have had their system changed because we did not change the system of this country long ago to a democratic socialist society.

Canada and the United States are really the bastions of the old private enterprise system and we are paying a pretty tremendous price for it. Canada and the United States, unlike almost all other democracies in the western world, have

never had democratic socialist governments, federally at least.

It is worth pointing out that for at least four decades the United States and Canada were first and second in average standard of living in the world. Rightly so; they should be with the natural resources they have had and still do have to a very large extent. The World Bank reports now that Canada is 11th in average standard of living and the United States is ninth.

Let me quote from an Associated Press article:

“‘Canada ranked 11th among industrialized countries in terms of per capita income,’ the World Bank says. ‘Ranked seventh a year ago, the United States has been overtaken by France and the Netherlands,’ the international lending organization said Sunday in its annual world development report. The rankings are based on a country’s gross national product divided by its population and expressed in terms of United States dollars.”

It goes on to list the per capita incomes. Canada is \$10,130; the United States, \$11,360; the United Kingdom, \$7,920; the Netherlands moved to eighth place, \$11,470, and France was at \$11,730. Switzerland remained first with a per capita gross national product of \$16,440, followed by West Germany with \$13,590, Sweden with \$13,520, Denmark with \$12,950, Norway with \$12,650 and Belgium with \$12,180.

All those countries have passed Canada and the United States in the average standard of living. If we went to the minimum standard of living—

**Mr. Nixon:** They have limits on debate.

**Mr. Swart:** If we were over there we would not have so much to debate. It would not take nearly as long to point out all the things that are wrong in our economy.

**Mr. Martel:** Great Britain?

**Mr. Swart:** I did not hold Great Britain up as an example; the member can be sure of that.

Those countries have not moved in front of us because they have more natural resources per capita, especially oil. Those countries do not have any oil. They do not have anything like the natural resources we have here. They have not moved in front of us because they were spared the ravages of war and we were subject to them. Most of those countries were decimated in the war years. They do not have more land per capita than we have here. They are densely populated countries. I suspect those people are not any more ambitious than we are in this nation.

The reason they have moved ahead is because they have a substantially different economic



system from what we have in this nation. They have had democratic socialist governments. Therefore, they have a large measure of economic planning. Once all these reforms are put in by democratic socialist governments, such as the public auto insurance in Saskatchewan, the health plan or whatever the case may be, when right-wing governments get back in power they do not dare to throw them out.

The same thing has happened over there and their standard of living has increased quite dramatically, surpassing this continent where we have everything we need to give us a high level of prosperity.

I became a democratic socialist during the Great Depression, 45 to 50 years ago. My father lost his farm during the Depression in 1934. He could not sell his produce and we were feeding our milk to the pigs. I went out and got a job as a hired man on a farm for a number of years after that. I was one of the lucky ones. I got a job peddling milk.

I kept asking myself a number of questions. I had been raised on the farm and I saw my father feeding the milk to the pigs. When I was in the milk wagon I was driving past factories that were closed down or were working only two or three days a week. I was going to a doorstep and a housewife with two, three, four or six children would often say to me, "Mr. Swart, leave only a pint of milk today," or "Leave a quart of milk today; the welfare cheque has not come in," or "My husband is working only two days this week." I asked myself—

**Mr. Nixon:** Bob Welch was on the bread wagon in the very same community.

**Mr. Swart:** If one compares the size of the member for Brock (Mr. Welch) with me, he is better off to drive a milk wagon than a bread wagon.

I asked myself some basic questions. What was wrong with our society? We had farmers who could produce everything we needed in our society, all the food we could possibly want. We had factories that could produce the services and commodities the public wanted and we had people wanting to work in those factories. We had all the ingredients but they were not being put together.

**8:30 p.m.**

In my home there were generally only two subjects discussed at the dinner or supper table; one was the state of our society and the other was religion. One of my earliest political recollections is of when Tommy Douglas was in the federal House. It was a Depression year, and he

was demanding that the Minister of Finance take certain actions to help the unemployed, to help the farmers who were destitute.

After he had made his speech as only Tommy Douglas can, the minister got up and said: "You know, that young man from Weyburn really does not know much about economics. There isn't any money to do those kinds of things. If you think there is that kind of money, you go out and find the money tree."

Tommy Douglas got up and said, "I know one thing for sure: if a war is declared tomorrow, you will find that money tree."

Only a few years later, war was declared. Within six months—I remember this very well—everybody was working. We had built new houses, we had built new factories and everybody was employed. Not only that, but even though we were destroying half our production, everybody had a higher standard of living. That, of course, raised many more questions about why we could not do this to meet human needs in peacetime.

The government did not find a \$10-billion money bush with which to do all of this. There was no wholesale nationalization of industry. That part of the economy was not really changed, basically; private enterprise still functioned. In fact, most of the companies were a lot more profitable than they had been during the Depression years. Do members know something else, too? Unions thrived.

I remember those Depression years very well and the right-wingers in those days said exactly the same thing as the right-wingers are saying today: "One of the reasons we have this Depression is that unions are getting too strong and are demanding wages that are too high. That is what is driving the price up so people cannot buy what we are producing."

They said: "We have mechanization now that we never had before. My goodness, now we have these power shovels and all of these things; people used to have to do the work. We can never expect there will be full employment again." Of course, we heard the same old line: "People really do not want to work. There is work there if people really want to go out and work."

As I say, our standard of living increased dramatically even though half our production was being used for war. All of this was possible and was achieved because one fundamental change was made: no longer was profit the sole deciding factor in the economic decisions that were being made. There was economic planning by government; there were national goals; there



were priorities and needs to be met. The major economic decisions were made on the basis of meeting those needs and achieving those goals, and really all that was changed was the decision-making process.

While Liberal and Tory governments participated in those war years, involved themselves, exercised control of the economy in the public interest, they totally reject it at any other time. That is really the fundamental difference between the Progressive Conservative Party, the Liberal Party and the New Democratic Party in this House.

The government party and the Liberal Party believe that the major economic decisions should be left to the private sector—for example, the amount and direction of public investment, the processing of our own natural resources and whether we have our natural resource machinery industry; leave all of those to the private sector to make the decisions on the basis of how much is in it for them.

By contrast, we in the NDP would ensure that those basic decisions were made on the basis of what is good for Canada, what is good for employment, what is good for productivity and what is good for fairer sharing; the private sector can then fit into that framework.

If we wanted to pick out one example of this, we could certainly use the example of high interest rates. Private decisions made and supported by the federal government, to a very large extent, have brought us to our present situation where we are running at only 75 per cent of capacity. There is massive unemployment and farmers are going bankrupt and being forced out of business by the financial squeeze.

Everyone knows high interest rates clobbered the economy. I do not think there is a person in this House who would not admit that. That was the major cause of unemployment. People could no longer build and buy houses. The construction industry went flat. Farmers could no longer buy farm machinery. Farmers in this nation cut their purchases of new farm machinery by more than half between 1978 and 1982. There were 35,000 bankruptcies last year, all because the government in Ottawa, supported by this government, would not intervene to keep interest rates at a reasonable level.

They said we had to have high interest rates to fight inflation. In a very real sense we did not have inflation. What we had in our society was price escalation, because the real definition of inflation is too much money chasing too few jobs. We had that in wartime and we put on price

controls. But at no time in the last two, three, four, five, six, seven or eight years have we had too much money chasing too few goods. If one had the money, one could go out and buy anything. There was no shortage of goods. What we had in our society was price escalation.

The federal government said—backed by the Tories in Ottawa and by the Tories here—we must fight this inflation by shrinking the money supply and raising the interest rates. Never has there been such a phoney excuse for bringing so many people to poverty in this nation. The net result of that and the other private sector multinational corporate decisions is, according to the latest figures, an economy running at 76.1 per cent of capacity. That is inflationary in itself. The unit costs are a lot higher for any business that runs at only 76 per cent of capacity. That is inflationary when the price of goods is compared to what people are earning. That spread widens because we have the economy running at only 75 per cent of capacity.

Having 1.5 million people, including 17 per cent of our young people, unemployed is many times worse than the so-called inflation we have. To a very large extent, that is the direct cause of the real inflation, of the price of goods going up related to the average income.

I want to say categorically that massive unemployment is unnecessary. It is devastating to the people involved and no humane society ought to tolerate it. There is nothing so destructive to a person's wellbeing.

As proof of this, I would like to refer to a number of items that have been in the papers recently. On November 22, 1983, the Toronto Star headline read, "Unemployment Destroys Families." It stated, "Unemployment has become the greatest threat to family stability in Canada and the United States in the past two years, according to a survey of family service agencies in both countries."

**8:40 p.m.**

We all remember when the SKF Canada Ltd. factory here in Toronto closed down and laid off its workers. There was a report in the St. Catharines Standard on April 10, 1982, of a study done by York University sociologists which said, "Laid-off workers not only have a difficult time finding new employment, but some face stress levels equal to divorce or the death of a spouse, a study of the social effects of a shutdown of a factory shows, sociologists at York University found."

They go on to say: "Half of those unemployed believe no one cares about them. Nearly one



fourth of them admit wondering whether life is worth living. More than 41 per cent said unemployment was equal in stress to divorce or death of a spouse."

Finally, I have a newspaper item here from January 11, 1983, on a study that was done in the United States on the effect of unemployment. It was done by Mr. Morton Owen Schapiro, who teaches in the economics department at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, and Dennis Ahlberg, who teaches in the industrial relations centre in the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

They say this in the report: "The obvious costs we pay for current economic policies are lost jobs, lower income and declining production. However, there is a lesser-known darker side to unemployment. Rising unemployment has been found to be associated with increases in homicide, admissions to mental institutions, alcoholism, cardiovascular disease arising from greater stress and, the ultimate cost, an increase in suicide.

"In fact, the most recent estimate from the United States National Centre for Health Statistics shows a 13 per cent increase in the suicide rate in the United States."

These two professors did the most comprehensive study that has ever been done on the effects of unemployment on people. I want to read one final paragraph.

"An annual unemployment rate of 10 per cent would currently lead to 1,280 more suicides in the United States during the year than would have occurred with an annual unemployment rate of six per cent."

What price life, by permitting the levels of unemployment we have in our society? The same desperation we see with the unemployed—I see it in my constituency office week after week—applies to the farm community.

Statistics show that in Ontario there are something like 19,000 loans to Ontario farmers by the Farm Credit Corp. Of those farmers, 3,500 are in trouble. In January 1982, 17 per cent, approximately 3,500 of all of those farmers who had FCC loans, were behind in their payments by a total of \$20 million. By 1983 that had risen to 18 per cent, and they were behind in their payments by \$30 million. On January 1 of this year it was 18.6 per cent, and they were behind in their payments to the tune of \$40 million. It had doubled in two years.

Of course, we are well aware of increasing bankruptcies among farmers. It is way higher last year than it was the year before, higher the year before than it was the year before that, and in

Canada as a whole in the first two months of this year it was 50 per cent higher than in the first two months of last year.

Talk to Concerned Farm Women, an organization that was formed because of the desperate situation, or talk to Women for Survival of Agriculture—I believe they now call it Support of Agriculture. Talk to the Farm Survival people. All of these groups have come into being because of the desperate situation and because of governments that will not help them out in their desperation. Talk to the farmers' union or the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, which I presume is considered the most moderate of any of the farm organizations. We met with them just a week ago.

We could not talk to those people, especially the women on that executive, without the pathos coming through about what is happening to their farm communities, their homes and their way of life.

We know there are two main problems facing farmers now, which have been facing them for the last two or three years. One is the high interest rates I have talked about. There is a shortage of credit. The shortage of Farm Credit Corp. credit is even greater at present. The other problem they have been faced with is the inadequacy of the return on their produce and the need for income stabilization.

To resolve these problems means interfering in the marketplace on behalf of the farmers and others. We have a 40-year-old government in this province that has simply refused to do that. The government simply will not interfere in interest rates, nor will it implement an income stabilization program for farmers.

Everybody in the House knows the other major agricultural provinces have done it. There are income stabilization programs in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta and Quebec. It is not unfair to point out the first was started in the New Democratic Party province of Saskatchewan, where there is a very adequate stabilization program. They did not mind interfering in the marketplace if the need was there for the farmers, and they put in the income stabilization program.

When the NDP was defeated in Saskatchewan and a Conservative government came in, it kept the program. The deputy minister from there moved over to the NDP government in Manitoba, and it put in the same kind of program there. Quebec followed suit with a different type of program. It has a general program of its own, and Alberta has put in something of a partial program. The farmers in this province desperate-



ly need that sort of thing. Instead of getting that, they get a stone from the government. More and more of them are finding themselves in very desperate situations.

**Mr. Nixon:** That sounds like Tommy Douglas. You ask for bread and get a stone.

**Mr. Swart:** You ask for bread and get a stone. It is true, though. Even the member would agree it is true. The hog producers and the red meat producers have been asking for a stabilization program and they have not got one cent of that stabilization program.

A few weeks ago I called Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta to find out what the price of hogs was stabilized at. I found out, while the market here is \$62.50, in Saskatchewan the price is stabilized at \$74, in Alberta at \$76 and in Manitoba at \$77.

**Mr. Nixon:** That is the answer to the question, "Whatever happened to Dennis Timbrell?"

**Mr. Swart:** He is not in here tonight. I think it will happen to the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell), because across this province—we found this out when we went on our tour—not only has the shine worn off, but there is real anger towards the Minister of Agriculture and Food for letting down the farm community.

The Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, the section of the university that deals with agriculture, reported just at that time—I believe it was the same day—the cost of producing hogs in this province was \$79 per hundredweight, and they are selling at \$62.50. How long can a farmer stay in business? Some of the farmers who have their properties paid for may be able to get by, but the great majority of farmers who have short-term, long-term, small or large loans simply cannot exist. As a result, they are folding.

**8:50 p.m.**

When the Ontario Federation of Agriculture executive were in to see us about a week ago, they did not think either the Minister of Agriculture and Food or Mr. Whelan were their friends. They thought they were being shafted by both of them.

**Mr. McClellan:** This seems logical to me. It seems a very good point.

**Mr. Swart:** Yes.

**Mr. Nixon:** Anybody who does not like Eugene Whelan has to be a misanthrope.

**Mr. Charlton:** They even say Bob Nixon has lost touch with the land.

**Mr. Swart:** The farmers in this province are paying a pretty terrible price for having a

Conservative government here for the last 40 years, particularly during the last few years when the situation has become quite desperate with regard to both unemployment and agriculture.

I think the farm situation in Ontario can best be put in perspective by a report of the specialist for central Ontario. I am not sure I am going to be able to find it at this time and I am not sure all members are terribly concerned if I am not able to find it.

Apart from the unwillingness of the government here to make those rather substantial changes—such things as stabilization, interfering in the marketplace and interfering with interest rates—they even give agriculture a much lower priority than the other provinces do.

I had our research department dig out these figures just a few weeks ago. In Ontario 1.16 per cent of the provincial budget last year went to agriculture. In New Brunswick it was 1.28 per cent; in British Columbia, 1.34 per cent; in Nova Scotia, 1.49 per cent; in Manitoba, 1.62 per cent; in Quebec, 1.74 per cent; in Alberta, 2.02 per cent; in Saskatchewan, 2.62 per cent; and in Prince Edward Island, 3.42 per cent.

Ontario devotes the lowest share of its budget to agriculture of any province in Canada except Newfoundland, but Newfoundland has only 600 farmers. The prime agricultural province in this nation has the lowest share of its budget going to assist farmers.

As chairman of our agricultural task force, I went around the province last fall and this winter with other members of our caucus and met a large number of farm groups. In fact, we met more than 60 organizations and 200 or 300 individual farmers. We saw and heard at first hand the plight they find themselves in. We developed a report with a list of recommendations we think are the minimum needed for the farm community. We think that nothing less than these will provide the assistance that farmers need. I am going to refer briefly to these 12 recommendations.

First of all, we feel it is absolutely essential that the staff and funding to the county offices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food must not only be immediately restored but should be substantially increased. There are new programs such as the beginning farmer assistance program that have to be administered by these county offices, and they desperately need more staff. They are the front line of the service to agriculture and they should be adequately staffed.

We believe it is tremendously important that the land base of this province be preserved and



upgraded. We think the food land guidelines must be revised to give priority to the retention of prime land for food production; we heard this all across the province. The Planning Act must be amended to provide that this is the case. Of course, just last week I tabled a bill in this Legislature to amend the Planning Act to do just that.

We believe legislation is required to limit the nonresident foreign ownership of Ontario farm land. I will be tabling a private member's bill on that in the not-too-distant future. The government says there are not a great many sales to foreigners now. The fact is that if our money, compared to that of the European countries, once again becomes cheaper, I am sure there will be a surge. We should be prepared for it, as other provinces have done in this nation.

We believe the government must significantly increase what it spends on assistance to prevent soil erosion. We believe the Drainage Act must be amended to provide an alternative to the lengthy and costly petition method and to replace the current provincially appointed Ontario Drainage Tribunal with municipally appointed local tribunals responsible to their local areas.

We believe the Grain Elevator Storage Act must be amended to ensure farmers retain title to all grain they sell to an elevator until they receive payment. We believe this government must go much further in ensuring that farmers are going to be paid for their produce, whether it is through forms of guarantees, insurance bonding or whatever the case may be.

**Mr. Nixon:** Is that eight or nine?

**Mr. Swart:** That is just three.

**Mr. Nixon:** You have a lot of subclauses there.

**Mr. Swart:** Actually that is about eight.

We believe the government should immediately appoint a joint committee composed of representatives from farmer and consumer associations and also from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations to examine the growing spread between farm gate and consumer prices and to investigate the effects of corporate concentration within the processing, distribution and retail sectors of the food industry.

When the farmer's share of the consumer's food dollar has dropped in the last four or five years from something like 59 per cent to 49 per cent, and when there has been a tremendous increase in the concentrations of the food processing industry, it is time once again that an in-depth investigation was made into that and

steps taken to ensure that the farmer is going to get his fair share of the consumer's dollar.

We believe there is need for the Province of Ontario Savings Office to expand its operations to provide long-term, low interest credit to farmers. Such expansion should occur in co-ordination with local credit unions and preferably in co-operation with the Farm Credit Corp. Every province in this nation, with the exception of Ontario, provides long-term credit to its farmers. I have the figures here for Alberta. The latest figure I have is for the 1981-82 season when Alberta provided \$388.5 million. Quebec provided \$347.3 million. Yet Ontario has refused even to try to provide one cent of long-term credit to the farmers in this province.

We think the Ontario farm adjustment assistance program should be revised to provide qualifying farmers with subsidies on interest rates above the eight per cent level instead of the current 12 per cent so OFAAP money goes to the farmers instead of to the banks, as is the case at the present time.

We believe it is absolutely essential that a per-head subsidy payment be made available on all beef cattle, hogs and sheep produced and marketed in the province. The number of livestock on which the subsidy is paid should have a ceiling based on the reasonable production of the family farm. The subsidy program must begin immediately and continue until a tripartite stabilization program is operative. The level of subsidy payments should be based on the average payment by other provinces with a special upward adjustment for northern Ontario.

No longer can our basic producers in this province live on promises by the Minister of Agriculture and Food when he said last September, "The tripartite program will be in place before the end of the year." Then in November he said, "The details will be in place within a few weeks." Now we know that it will not be here before the end of the year. If we have a federal election within the next few months, the whole thing could die and we may never get the tripartite program.

**9 p.m.**

Those farmers need assistance now. There is a moral obligation on the part of the government of this province to do what the other provinces have done for their farmers and put in a provincial stabilization plan, particularly for red meat producers.

Finally, we propose that the provincial budget for agriculture be increased this year from \$290 million to \$450 million. That is an increase of



\$160 million. This figure was not just picked out of the air. Even if the Ontario government increases its budget, the percentage going to agriculture will still be slightly below the average for this nation. A great part of that is needed just to put in the red meat stabilization program for the farmers.

The policies of this government and the philosophy of this government are not geared to meet the serious economic situation we are in at present. In fact, its whole restraint program is counterproductive.

The first objective of the economy's operation must be full employment and viable farm operation. Because neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives will make the necessary fundamental changes, this party is important to the provincial and national scene. It is the only alternative to the present system.

Liberals and Conservatives may predict our demise, as they have done many times before. But because what we believe, promote and legislate is humane and just, and because our democratic socialist policies work and those of their governments do not, this movement will be around long after the philosophies and the policies of their parties are only a bad dream by the people of this province and of this nation.

**Mr. J. M. Johnson:** Mr. Speaker, as this is the first opportunity I have had to speak in this fourth session of the 32nd Parliament, I would like to take a moment to congratulate the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and the Chairman of committees of the whole House on the fair and impartial way in which they have conducted the business of this House in the last session and to offer them my best wishes and support for this new session.

The Sergeant at Arms asked me to put in a good word for him as well, and I have no hesitation in doing so. In fact, I have the highest regard for all the officers of this House.

I rise to support the initiatives presented to this assembly in the recent speech from the throne, which was so ably delivered by our Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable John B. Aird. He added a new and touching dimension to this traditional speech by talking to the deaf. On many similar occasions, I have witnessed acts of kindness and compassion by His Honour to the disadvantaged, the handicapped and, above all, to the children. We, in Ontario, are fortunate to have such a dedicated Canadian as our Lieutenant Governor. He serves as an example and an inspiration to all of us.

Having the honour to represent the riding of Wellington-Dufferin-Peel, which has a very

strong agriculture base, I was pleased with the proposal in the throne speech to create an advisory council on agriculture. Such a council will be able to look at all the issues related to agriculture and should be able to provide an independent and informed evaluation of the different ideas and concerns in this area.

Ontario is fortunate in having an abundant resource of information and informed people in the area of agriculture. There are the county federations of agriculture, producer boards and individual producers. There is also a rich depository of knowledge available in our colleges of agricultural technology. On the more academic side, there is the well-known and internationally respected University of Guelph, well suited to contributing to discussions on longer-term agriculture issues.

Closely linked to the producers is the entire food processing industry, which also plays a vital role in the food chain. There is also the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, with staff expertise ranging from the broader policy issues to the detailed knowledge of the ag reps out in the field. In my opinion, the ag reps are second to none.

**Mr. Wildman:** Why do you not give them more support?

**Mr. J. M. Johnson:** We should give them more money.

**Mr. Wildman:** I mean the government, not you. I know you do, but I mean the government.

**Mr. J. M. Johnson:** Right.

The new agricultural council of Ontario will have the opportunity to draw input from all these sources as well as from other related areas. The council will be able to undertake research analysis of the issues and provide comments and policy alternatives to the Minister of Agriculture and Food. The council will have the scope to examine and report on both the problems and the opportunities facing agriculture in Ontario. It will not be there to provide any popular, quick-fix solutions.

While details have yet to be announced, it is expected the Ontario agricultural council will fill a role similar to the Ontario Economic Council or the Ontario Council of Health. Both these existing organizations have excellent reputations and perform a valuable function. A similar forum for agriculture has the potential to be of considerable help, not only to farmers but also to the people of the province as a whole.

It is understandable that some may want to reserve judgement until the nature of the organization is made known in greater detail or until the appointments to the council have been



named. Both these steps are important but the first step, the creation of the council, has been the most important and the one that deserves praise now.

Members of the council will be chosen on the basis of their contribution to agriculture in their own fields. They will be chosen from the various groups that contribute to agriculture, and each will be able to apply his or her individual expertise and experience to the many issues that constantly confront our agricultural community.

The speech from the throne emphasized the government's commitment to intensify efforts to create more agricultural export markets and to support the modernization of small food processors. Both initiatives should have some beneficial results in helping Ontario farmers with their overproduction.

On this point, I must express my personal dismay and frustration about this problem which contributes to the declining economic life of rural Ontario, the ability to produce too much food. While we have too much, others have too little. Every night about two billion human beings in the world go to bed hungry and wake up in the morning not knowing where they will find food.

It is a sad day for our planet as a whole when one fifth of its population is suffocating in food and the remainder of its people are either underfed or dying of starvation. Surely we have the intellectual capacity in this enlightened age to devise a workable plan that would allow our rich farm lands and our tremendous productivity to share in the task of feeding the starving children of this world. We have a moral responsibility to do no less.

**9:10 p.m.**

I would be remiss if I did not compliment the Minister of Agriculture and Food on his new red meat plan and for his courage to do something positive in this area. I would like to quote from an editorial in *Farm and Country*, Tuesday, January 17. It is headed "Timbrell's Boldness" and reads:

"It had to come.

"Ontario's beef and sheep industries have been ailing for many years, so agriculture minister Dennis Timbrell's bold move to reshape production and marketing should be welcomed by all thoughtful producers.

"And his approach shows great imagination. His three-man beef commission comprises some of the top talent in Ontario agriculture. There is Henry Davis, a respected cattleman and vice-chairman of the Farm Products Appeal Tribunal; Ralph Barrie, until last week the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) president; and

Murray Gaunt, farm commentator for CKNX-TV, former Liberal MPP for Huron-Bruce and turkey producer"—and a good friend of most of the members in this assembly on both sides of the House.

To continue with the quotation: "Mr. Barrie resigned his OFA presidency to take on this crucial assignment, and he faces the toughest challenge of his great career. Should he and his two colleagues succeed in bringing order to beef farming, rural Ontario will owe him an even greater debt of gratitude."

Since then the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency Commission has been named: chairman, Jack James, RR 3, Russell; Walter Renwick, RR 1, Clifford; and Garth Noecker, RR 3, Listowel.

I offer my most sincere congratulations to the members of both commissions and wish them well in the difficult days ahead. They face a formidable task in resolving the many issues affecting the red meat industry. In my riding alone, many farmers have had some very difficult times these last few years. The high interest rates are among the most serious problems. I sincerely hope the federal government will not lose control of interest rates again, but the signs are not good in Ottawa at present.

One of the most critical issues facing our government today is unemployment, especially the unemployment of our young people. The Premier emphasized his concern about this issue in an address to the Empire Club in Toronto on February 23, 1984. It has been extensively referred to in the throne speech and will be enunciated in the budget of our Treasurer (Mr. Grossman).

I look forward to the consolidation of all youth employment programs under one ministry. This positive step, along with increased funding and new incentives that have been promised in the throne speech, should address some of the problems related to youth employment.

Skills training for all age groups, and other programs, must be put in place to help create meaningful jobs for all our unemployed. The commitment to create a province-wide network of training and business development consultants to help industry upgrade resources is a very positive step in the right direction.

Many small industries do not have the expertise, the knowhow or the capital to become involved in many of the new products that are coming on stream. I hope this consultative process can be expanded to provide advice and guidance to our many retail and wholesale entrepreneurs. These small businesses have the



potential to create many of the jobs we so desperately need, especially in small-town Ontario.

As a matter of fact, a good example of this occurred in my riding just a few years ago. Representatives of the Ministry of Industry and Trade in Kitchener, and Peter McGough in particular, worked with a small industry in the village of Arthur, All Treat Products, owned by Laverne and George White, and convinced them to expand into a new business venture, the processing of tree bark, a waste product, into bark chips, which are used in flower beds to control weeds.

Ten million dollars' worth of this bark was imported into Canada every year because no Canadian manufacturer existed. The Whites hope to be able to replace most of this import market with their Canadian product, providing jobs and retaining Canadian dollars by less importation. It is hoped this new program will increase these success stories. Import replacement is just as important as increased exports to ensure that our trade balance remains healthy.

A simple example would be the replacement of citrus fruit and juices with Ontario fruit and juices. If we could encourage our citizens to drink apple juice, grape juice and tomato juice instead of orange juice, at least a few times a week, and eat apples instead of oranges, it would mean millions of dollars for our Ontario agriculture and millions of dollars less spent on costly imports, plus a saving to the consumer in less expensive food.

While I am on the subject of imports and exports, I must comment on a story in the business section of the Toronto Star of Friday, March 30. In the story both opposition parties expressed criticism of the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) for assisting businesses to participate in trade missions.

The minister has embarked on an ambitious new program to increase private sector sales abroad. The opposition is critical of the incentives to private industry offered in these trade missions. They also make the very valid point that the Canadian government should be doing many of the things Ontario is now doing. I concur with the last point, but unfortunately the federal government is not doing enough to sell Ontario exports, and therefore we must engage in these international areas.

I very strongly support the minister's involvement in this field and his support of the private sector, and I concur with his remarks that the money spent on trade promotion by the province

is an investment in Ontario's future and that increased export sales translate into new jobs at home.

In the field of health, I was pleased with the statement that the ministry would provide additional chronic and nursing home beds. I see too many people in hospitals taking up beds at more than \$200 a day who would be happier and better off in nursing homes and chronic care facilities, which cost much less than half that figure but which unfortunately are not always available, especially in rural Ontario.

In the speech from the throne relating to community improvements, the initiatives to help small communities upgrade police and fire stations are of interest to me, as I have several small towns and villages that could take advantage of some assistance in this area. I anticipate these initiatives will be clarified in the budget presentation.

Items relating to the funding of local water protection projects and the extension of GO Transit are also of interest to my constituents. GO Transit or some similar system is required in the Caledon-Dufferin area, and better bus service is needed in Wellington.

There has been speculation recently that the Gray Coach bus service will be discontinued between Owen Sound and Guelph. I have requested official confirmation or denial of this speculation, and I serve notice of my complete opposition to any change in this route which would lessen the service that is now being provided. My riding has many senior citizens, students and others who rely on some form of public transportation, and there is little enough of it available at the present time. I have been striving to improve this system and I will not accept less.

While I am discussing transportation, I would like to express my concern about the amount of money that is being transferred into the social policy field at the expense of the resource sector. We cannot neglect our roads, sewers, water and natural resources for long without paying a very heavy price in the future. Some of our highways are suffering now. I have requests for numerous projects, some very important, such as the widening of Highway 10 north of Caledon for safety reasons.

Many of the municipalities require financial assistance from the Ministry of the Environment to provide necessary services, water and sanitary, to their residents. Acid rain is a serious global problem, especially serious for Ontario, and dollars will be needed by the Ministry of the



Environment to work towards solving this problem.

If we sacrifice the larger part of our provincial budget for health, education and social services, very little will be left for our resource policy sector. The consequences will be serious. I think we must all set our expectations on realistic goals that our Treasury can reach in a reasonable fiscal budget.

Justice and quality of life are two topics I would like to discuss tonight, and especially the statement dealing with the strengthening of law enforcement. I happen to believe we have excellent police forces in Ontario. The Ontario Provincial Police and our municipal and regional police forces are on the whole beyond reproach, but we have a problem in society with our judicial system.

**9:20 p.m.**

Perhaps it is our laws, our judges or our court system, but something is amiss. Many of my constituents are expressing dismay over the light sentences being handed down by our courts for very serious and often brutal crimes. For years, we have been envied by most of the nations of the world for our safe cities. Tourists felt free to walk our streets at any time, but this is changing.

Reacting to the recent slaying of milk store clerk Nizam Ali, Mississauga council passed a bylaw prohibiting convenience stores from remaining open between midnight and 5 a.m.

North York Mayor Mel Lastman's opinion is that closing convenience stores at night is not the answer to violent robberies. Mayor Lastman is quoted as saying: "We can't let a group of thugs tell us how to run our cities. Start forcing everything to close and suddenly we'll be rolling up the sidewalks at night like some American cities. Everyone becomes afraid to walk after dark—the streets become empty."

I agree with Mayor Lastman. We cannot even consider allowing our law and order to be undermined by this thought. I have no intention of getting into controversy over convenience stores and their hours. I use this tragic incident only to emphasize my concern over violent crime.

It is my contention that until the judicial system is changed to reflect the concern of the public for their safety, we will have more of these tragic murders. I have always believed that a crime of violence is much worse than a simple robbery. Anyone convicted of a crime that involves physical injury to the victim should receive a sentence that is proportionate to the injuries inflicted on the victim.

Mayor Lastman is quoted as saying in the *Toronto Star* of March 27, 1984: "Our judicial system is nuts. A guy commits armed robbery and gets three years, but he knows he'll be out of jail after one. The judges are going to have to understand these are dangerous people."

In the *Toronto Star* of March 31, 1984, Mayor Hazel McCallion of Mississauga is quoted as saying that law and order will be made a major issue in the next federal election. "We have to bring this into the limelight at election time because the federal government and the judges can't seem to be persuaded to hand out stiffer penalties to violent criminals."

In May 1982, Ontario Provincial Police Constable Rick Hopkins of Mount Forest, my home town, was shot to death by a young man who had just robbed a store in the village of Arthur. Constable Hopkins was shot in the throat at close range with a shotgun. He had absolutely no chance to defend himself. The young man was convicted of first-degree murder and given a 25-year sentence. His sentence is now being appealed on the grounds that this young man was too drunk to know what he was doing. What about Constable Hopkins? What about his wife? What about his young children?

If our laws state that someone convicted of a crime and carrying a dangerous weapon would receive a much more severe sentence because of the weapon, such as two years for robbery and 10 years if he carried a gun, would that type of sentence not act as a deterrent and prevent some of our violent crimes? Let the punishment fit the crime.

I also support the proposition that it is this assembly's obligation to uphold our community values and provide reasonable and clear-cut protection against exploitive film and video productions.

I hesitate to interfere in the lives of others, with their right to make their own decisions, but I fear that if we do nothing, we the so-called leaders in our society are condoning something that may prove very detrimental to our young people. In this I feel a strong personal obligation, being a grandfather of four small girls.

Adults can make their own decisions, but our children look to their elders, parents, teachers, priests, ministers and even politicians to give them guidance in their formative years. It is the responsibility of this assembly to uphold community values. To quote Edmund Burke, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." If legislative changes are necessary, then the sooner the better.



The last point in the speech from the throne that I wish to address is the one dealing with resources and environment. There were proposals to initiate experimental mediation procedures as a possible alternative to administrative and judicial procedures now mandated by Ontario's environmental laws. I am not sure I understand exactly what that means, but if the government is suggesting that we can look at some other mechanism that might help us arrive at a more sensible and reasonable way of resolving disputes with our citizens, then I would strongly support this position.

I would like to use Ontario Hydro as an example. A year ago in a speech delivered in this chamber, I expressed my personal concern about the public's perception of Ontario Hydro. In many parts of the province, especially rural Ontario, Hydro is perceived to be the foe, the enemy. The main reason for this is Hydro's inability to convince the public of its needs and then to allow them some input into arriving at mutually agreeable alternatives.

I had hoped to convince the members of this Legislature that we all have a responsibility to our constituents, the taxpayers of this province, to work with Ontario Hydro to resolve costly disputes with the public. Disputes inevitably cost each and every one of us dearly. However, it was not to be. Since that time, Hydro has become involved in another public controversy—one, I might add, that is not of Hydro's making—on the proposed transmission corridor out of Bruce to London.

Hydro proposed six routes. They chose M-1, a direct route to London and the least expensive. In my opinion, it was the logical choice. However, it was decided that the decision would be made by a joint board under the Consolidated Hearings Act. This joint board, in a split decision, decided on route M-3 after some—and I emphasize some—public hearings. Today, thousands of citizens and numerous municipalities, county councils and regions are expressing displeasure at the decision reached by the joint board.

I do not want to dwell on the merits of the decision or to rehash the reason for reaching that decision. However, I strongly suggest that something is wrong. Somewhere the system failed. Too many people are not satisfied with the process. Perhaps another more sensible means of resolving disputes must be used. Hopefully, this was the intent in the throne speech.

Having spent several years dealing with the controversy surrounding Hydro corridors, I have a personal observation I would like to place on

the record. It is my contention that land owners facing expropriation are entitled to compensation that not only reflects a fair appraised market value but also extra compensation for the inconvenience and personal loss they always incur as a result of that expropriation. If the state needs my home, for whatever reason, it can have it but I should receive fair market value plus a 20 per cent to 50 per cent bonus to help me relocate and to compensate me for my personal loss.

**Mr. McClellan:** Twenty per cent to 50 per cent?

**Mr. J. M. Johnson:** Extra. If one has a willing buyer and a willing seller, there is no problem. Failing that, one should be paid better than reasonable compensation. Everyone would benefit except the legal profession, which thrives on this type of controversy.

Many of Hydro's problems in building transmission lines would be lessened—not eliminated—if they had more leeway in their expropriation processes and if a fairer hearing process could be put into place.

**9:30 p.m.**

I did not have an opportunity to participate in the debate on the Pickering issue a few days ago, but I would like to make a few observations at this time. I will start by saying that I support Ontario Hydro's nuclear generation program and I am pleased to know that the deputy leader of the Liberal Party also supports this position. If we had the choice of hydroelectric power, then I would opt for that system; but we have only a very limited amount of water power that could be developed and even that source would create problems.

Try building a dam today, taking out of production thousands of acres of agricultural land or raising the level of lakes that encroach on cottage owners' property rights, such as the West Montrose dam and the proposed power development in Muskoka.

Surely no one would advocate going to oil- or coal-fired stations. Both fuels have to be brought into Ontario. Oil is a limited resource. Coal is becoming extremely costly and creates other environmental problems such as acid rain, which can be partially controlled but which also add to the costs. Nuclear power is not only cheaper but also is in plentiful supply in Ontario.

It is my personal opinion that Ontario should be leading the world in the hydrogen field. We have the two main components—an abundant supply of fresh water and nuclear power—and I hope we move into this field in the very near future.



The questions of Hydro's accountability to this Legislature and of government's control of Hydro have always been issues that have raised concerns with many members of this assembly, and rightly so. On a recent trip to Quebec City I met with several members of the Quebec National Assembly and posed these very questions to both government and opposition members. The response I received was quite clear: Hydro-Québec should be accountable to the Legislature, but the government should not control the corporation.

The members I talked to felt that Hydro-Québec was doing a good job and that it would be a mistake to have politicians interfere in the decision-making process. The thought was expressed that politicians tend to think in the short term—two to three years, their term of office; Hydro officials have to think in the long term, 20 to 30 years. That very well sums up the position for Ontario Hydro: accountable, yes; controlled, no.

In closing, may I on behalf of David Craig, president of the Wellington ploughing match committee, extend an invitation to all members and their constituents to attend the international ploughing match and farm machinery show that will be held this year in Wellington county from September 25 to 29.

I am extending this invitation at an early date since I realize how far in advance most members have to make commitments, and also to remind them that there will be a challenge match at ploughing for the members. This advance notice will give everyone a chance to practise up on the science of ploughing.

At last year's international ploughing match, held in Ottawa-Carleton, I finished 11th in a very large field.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** About 30 acres.

**Mr. J. M. Johnson:** A large field. So I serve notice that I will be practising and I hope I will be able to improve my showing in this very important event.

I can assure this assembly that no one will be disappointed in making an effort to be in Wellington county this September. The international ploughing match will be held in Teviotdale, Highways 9 and 23 near Harriston, Palmerston, Arthur and Mount Forest. As Mount Forest is my home town, the match will be in my own backyard.

**Mr. J. M. Johnson:** The members' ploughing match will be held on September 25. That date also happens to be my wedding anniversary, and my wife Marnie is absolutely thrilled at the

prospect that I might win the silver cup for ploughing on this auspicious day.

I do hope the members will accept my invitation to come to Wellington county this fall. It is a beautiful part of the province, with rich rolling farm land, sparkling clear streams, beautiful maple bushes, small interesting towns and villages, and the friendliest people one will ever meet.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Why do you ever come to town, leaving all that?

**Mr. J. M. Johnson:** With great difficulty.

Mark the last week of September on the calendar. I will remind the members again about this international event.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity I have had to make these comments to this assembly.

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, first, I want to say to my friend the member for Wellington-Dufferin-Peel (Mr. J. M. Johnson) that I would like to be able to take him up on his invitation in the latter part of September, being the great supporter of the farm community that I am. I am not certain we will be able to because at that point we may be involved in the re-election campaign of my Liberal colleagues in Ottawa, a re-election campaign I am sure will be successful.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Displace the Pope? You would not do a thing like that.

**Mr. Wrye:** No, he said September 25. The Pope will be leaving a few days before then.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to make a few remarks in this throne speech debate. Since he has thought enough to be here, I want to compliment my friend the new Minister of Revenue (Mr. Gregory). I told him at dinner I would say some nice things about him.

He said not to say any bad things about his predecessor, but I do want to tell him that we in our riding are very pleased at the greatly improved distribution of the senior citizens' tax grants, finally and at long last. The disaster that visited us in the fall of 1981 and to a slightly lesser extent, but very slightly, in the fall of 1982, was much improved last year. On behalf of the senior citizens in my riding, I am very pleased about that. I might also add I am saying that for my constituency assistant, who after two years has had enough of trying to sort out the mess of the ministry.

I want to say to my friend the Chairman of Management Board (Mr. McCague) that some of my remarks tonight were written for me, prepared for me, and I want to admit as I start out



that the contracts for these remarks were not tendered. However, I have checked the Manual of Administration and I think I fall under the guideline.

It is hard for me to reply to the actual speech from the throne, because in my judgement it is a speech which, as my leader pointed out in the House a week ago, gives the illusion of substance but is really a grab-bag of platitudes, recycled promises, hollow phrases and piecemeal gestures. Nowhere is there in that throne speech the significant and far-reaching legislative initiatives to cover almost any area of concern in this House, certainly not in my two areas of critic responsibility—community and social services and women's issues.

Aside from completely ignoring the problems of welfare recipients and unemployment insurance exhaustees, the speech in general lacks any concrete focus on matters concerning the disadvantaged sections of our society, the mentally and physically disabled and the children of families who live at or, in many cases, beneath the poverty line.

As far as women's issues go, the speech follows the consistent pattern adopted by my friend the Deputy Premier and Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch). It is full of platitudes, and of tentative, equivocal and generally piecemeal measures. By and large, it proposes changes that go far too slowly and far too inadequately help that segment of the population which is female.

**9:40 p.m.**

Before I get into some of the details of my remarks, I want to speak briefly about the alleged event that is happening in this province in this year of 1984. Of course, I am referring to the bicentennial. I want to say to my friends opposite that while some of my friends on this side in both parties may be willing to say nice things about the bicentennial because some of them perhaps believe in it—I would not want to impute motives—and some of them also believe one has to say nice things about it, as somebody who is a bit of a student of history, I say anyone who is seriously interested in the heritage of this province, as opposed to some Tory strategist somewhere on the other side who is keen on whipping up campaign slogans and electoral fever, knows if there is one thing 1984 is not, it is not our bicentennial.

The real year of the bicentennial is 1991, seven years from now, since it was in 1791 that Ontario became a distinct political and geographical entity.

**Mr. Harris:** We will do it again.

**Mr. Wrye:** I am sure, as my friend the member for Nipissing (Mr. Harris) suggests, if those people are still over there, and they will not be, in 1991 they will try it all over again.

It bothers me that this whole farce is akin to another manufactured illusion of Tory government. We all remember the 1981 Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program, which was literally much ado about nothing. It has taken us three years, the fullness of time, to see how little that had to do with reality.

It is disgraceful, in my judgement, and I will get into this as I get into the meat of my remarks, in a province faced with chronic youth unemployment and with thousands of community groups crying out for help, that this government has squandered, as it admits it has, \$10 million on this almost fraudulent celebration.

It has also squandered and hidden in the ministries of this government millions more. I think of the announcement that was made recently by the Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Mr. Dean).

**Mr. McClellan:** Which one?

**Mr. Wrye:** The gentleman who quotes poetry, and we try to figure out what it means. The new provincial secretary recently announced that we are going to have 9,200 jobs under summer Experience '84. We are going to help our students rewrite the history books. That is one of the ways we can hide the real cost of this bicentennial, the real cost of this government celebrating whatever it is going to celebrate. Rather than putting those young people to work in jobs that would help the communities all over Ontario that so desperately need help, these young people are going to work celebrating and selling the bicentennial the Tories have foisted upon us.

When the present Premier was Minister of Education, people used to comment that they were victims of the Bill Davis era of education. Now we are going to have a new group of victims. I am sure a lot of those poor young people will think 1984 was the bicentennial of something, when it is only the bicentennial in the pipe-dream of some Queen's Park strategist for the Tories, perhaps Hugh Segal or Ed Stewart.

**Mr. McClellan:** Sam Cureatz.

**Mr. Wrye:** He is not in his seat to heckle; so we should not say it is the hatching of the member for Durham West, is it?



**Mr. Cureatz:** Durham East.

**Mr. Wrye:** I knew it was one of the two.

I want to turn to what the government has and has not said and has and has not done about the issues that affect the women of this province. I want to start by suggesting that in the midst of all the vague phrases that must have been written by the Deputy Premier about women, the throne speech had one particularly nonsensical phrase about efforts to improve women's rights.

I do not believe, nor do my colleagues, one can improve human rights. Rights exist for all individuals whether we recognize them as such. I know this may be too philosophical a point for some members of the government party to understand, but governments can only address the needs that flow from individuals having natural rights. They cannot increase or decrease rights that are by definition inalienable. Because rights cannot be surrendered, they cannot be improved.

The question before us as members of this House is how best to address the manifold needs that flow from the equality rights women naturally have. Here I part company quite firmly from the government and support the bold and imaginative initiatives my colleagues and I have put forward as part of the Liberal strategy for bringing about the full implementation of the equality of women within Ontario society.

Let me give just one example. My party, particularly my colleague the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps), has been in the forefront in the fight for equal pay for work of equal value. I must remind government members, who must be embarrassed every time they are reminded, that even they felt obliged to support the resolution introduced by her last fall. That resolution read that the principle of equal pay for work of equal value not be just supported but be enshrined in the Employment Standards Act.

It must have been a great time in the Tory caucus. Can members see it? They looked at the issue and said: "We are just talking about a principle. We can vote for a principle." Then somebody in the Tory caucus who is perhaps a little brighter than the norm said: "But she has trapped us. She has said 'be enshrined.' What can we do?" Eventually of course what came down was, "We will vote for it and then we will wait a couple of weeks and the minister will bring in some minor, minuscule amendments." That is exactly what happened.

This government obviously does not care, but I remind the government and the member for Nipissing, if he did not see the Gallup poll

yesterday, that among the women of this province this government has fallen to second place. That only proves once again just how much intelligence and insight the women of this province have. As they have led in so many other things, so they are already taking the lead in signalling an end to 41 years of Tory government.

We are a little more concerned on our side than they are on the Tory side about this. We see the injustice of a seamstress in a factory who is making 25 cents an hour less than a man who sweeps the factory floor. We think that is unjust and we want to see that injustice rectified.

For its part, the government simply believes it can tinker with existing legislation and just require something called a composite test, which is just equal pay with a little bit of a frill around it. All we have is a little bit of frill. I wish my friend and parliamentary colleague from the other side of the House, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay), for whom I have great regard, would stand in his place and indicate just how many thousands of women in this province will be affected by the tinkering and tampering the government has done with section 33 of the Employment Standards Act.

The concept of equal pay for work of equal value, one in an arsenal of weapons, is a decisive way to address the whole issue of the job ghetto. It happens right here at Queen's Park. Women are segregated into the lowest-paying jobs throughout the province.

**9:50 p.m.**

Let me cite a couple of examples. The implementation of equal pay for work of equal value would adjust the economic imbalance of a receptionist being paid substantially less than a junior accountant. It would end the discrimination that exists right here on our own doorstep at Queen's Park where a male parking lot attendant earns \$4,500 more a year than a female switchboard operator.

As legislators, we should look at that one very simple example with a distinct lack of pride in what we have done to bring about economic justice in this province. Surely these examples point out how much Ontario women need an equal value system in which dissimilar jobs are compared to assess their relative values.

I recognize that implementation of equal value is not the only step that needs to be taken. It will affect a small percentage of the working population and it will narrow the substantial 63 per cent wage gap perhaps by less than 10 per cent. The



minister suggests by much more than that. I suggest it would be much closer to 10 per cent.

I think the government's failure to act on this has served as a signal to the women of Ontario that this government is not really prepared to get on with the job. It is prepared only to tinker politely with the present system and to jump to attention when members of the business community, who are somewhat less than progressive in their outlook, suggest that to do anything other than that would bring economic ruin and havoc to our province.

Quite frankly, I do not know how those members of the business community or even how those members of the government can suggest what a horrible system this would be in the one breath and then suggest in the next breath that it is just fine for the women of Ontario, for the single women, for divorced women and for mother-led families. "Stay in your ghetto and make \$4,000 or \$5,000 a year less than your male counterparts for substantially the same kind of quality of job. We will run this economy substantially on the backs of the women of Ontario."

When we speak about the arsenal of weapons, one of the great pieces in the arsenal is the implementation of affirmative action. For the last eight years the government has gone cap in hand not just to private business—I have no wish to accuse it of footdragging—but also to the public sector, the municipalities and school boards. For eight years this government has gone cap in hand to those public sector employers whose very existence depends upon the largess at tax time from not only the men but the women of this province.

This government is now under the inspired leadership of the Deputy Premier on this issue. I hope there will be some applause for him. If only he had some clout in cabinet and in his caucus, he would do it tomorrow, he would get tough, but there are 69 others who do not want to. They are led—I am sure and I am afraid—by the Premier. For eight years we have asked, "Please, will you not implement an affirmative action strategy?" The result has been close to zero and it remains close to zero today.

Perhaps we should understand why private businesses and other public sector employers are not too willing to move. I would just like to go back to the 1982-83 status of women crown employees' report and talk for a few minutes about what great progress we are making right here in these precincts, as the member for Renfrew North (Mr. Conway) says.

That report indicates that female government staff still make only 75.8 per cent of what their male counterparts earn. In some individual ministries the record is even worse. I am very sorry my friend the Minister of Energy (Mr. Andrewes) has departed for a moment because he is right at the top of the list. In the Ministry of Energy a woman makes on average 56.4 per cent of the average male salary; in the Ministry of Industry and Trade, 57.9 per cent, and in the Ministry of Northern Affairs, 61 per cent. The Ministry of the Attorney General is not at the bottom, but it is close to it at 63.7 per cent.

In the enlightened area of the Ministries of Colleges and Universities and Education, that great light of equality led by our esteemed minister, the average is a grand 64.2 per cent. My friend the Minister of Labour, who until recently had control of most of the matters that pertain to women—the women's bureau and the affirmative action organization were under his ministry—is still under 70 per cent in his ministry and well behind even the inexcusably low average this government has.

Let me be quite specific about the failure of affirmative action in this government. I want to narrow it down to one very specific instance, and that is the school boards of this province. As I recall the figures, there are 186 school boards in Ontario, and 62 school boards, exactly one third, have 500 employees or more. I would have thought a long time ago we would have reached a position where we would have full implementation of affirmative action programs in the 62 large school boards and that we could start moving on, as we in our party believe, down to the school boards with as few as 100 employees. That is where we ought to be today, but we are not even close.

Out of the 62 very large school boards in this province, after eight years of government action, of the ministry literally pleading on hands and knees, a grand total of 18 have implemented any kind of affirmative action program. Given what the minister has been saying in his place in the last few days, we are not sure that even the announcement of an affirmative action program at a school board means very much.

This government stands condemned by its own documents. I want to refer you, Mr. Speaker, to the updated 1982 Ministry of Education report called *A Comparative Analysis of Male/Female Staff in the Ontario Education System*. I hope my friends on the government side will want to get a copy of it and look at it, because when the women of Ontario face them at election time with the



utmost hostility, they will at least begin to understand why women are not too pleased with their great level of progress.

That report indicates that in 1972 the number of male elementary school principals as compared with female on a percentage basis was six to one, which is a pretty disgraceful statistic. The government, through its pleas for affirmative action, has set about overcoming that terrible ratio. After 10 years of struggling mightily and after 10 years of the kind of ad nauseam comments we have heard from the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) and the Minister responsible for Women's Issues about how much this government is doing, they had made progress. They had made progress if one considers going in the other direction to be progress. After 10 years the ratio was no longer six male principals for every one female; it was seven males for every one female.

**10 p.m.**

We had the pathetic example of the Minister responsible for Women's Issues trotting off to an educational conference last Thursday night to tell the educators things cannot continue as they are, they must change. He was followed by his colleague the Minister of Education on Friday. She went down to the Harbour Castle Hilton and said, "Those of you who have implemented affirmative action"—she should be sending them Ontario medals. They should all get bicentennial medals. We could give them out because so few boards are involved. She said the school boards that had implemented affirmative action were a miserable minority. That is what she called them, and indeed it is a miserable minority. We should all be grateful for that minority which, in spite of the government doing nothing, has seen fit to move on its own.

Clearly, the government stands condemned by its own statistics. It seems to me the time has come for the Minister of Education and her colleague the Minister responsible for Women's Issues to stop ducking the issue and say to the school boards, "You will implement, and you will implement now."

We have waited eight years. The time for waiting has come and gone long ago. It seems to me there would not be much of an ability on the part of those school boards to cry, "You have changed the rules for us in the middle of the game," unless all this talk about implementing affirmative action has really been the government talking publicly out of one side of its mouth and then snickering quietly in private, "You

really do not have to do it, because we are not going to press you on it."

**Mr. Nixon:** I suspect that is the case in spite of the leadership we have been giving on this issue.

**Mr. Wrye:** My friend the House leader, who is much wiser than I and who has been here much longer—I notice he agreed with that as well; he is a very agreeable chap—suspects this government talks a different game in private than it does in public, and I suspect he is right.

Before I leave the matter of the reforms we need to aid the women of this province, I want to draw the attention of the House briefly to the proposal I have made under Bill 7, An Act to amend the Family Law Reform Act. I am pleased to hear the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) has changed his mind. Now all he has to do is change the mind of the cabinet and perhaps we will have some decent legislation that will protect the female spouses of this province, not entirely but mainly in the case of marriage breakdown.

I modestly commend my legislation to the members and my friend the Attorney General. It is intended to do just that. It ensures that all property owned by one or both spouses is considered a family asset, and it goes much further than our present legislation in dividing those assets equally upon divorce.

It greatly narrows the range of exceptions, the main one being the domestic contract, which remains a possibility to supersede legislation under the act. It also maintains two other fairly minor discretionary powers for the court, the first being the duration of the marriage and the second being the extent to which one spouse or another acquired property after separation.

We in this party believe the mere fact that thousands of women in this province live in poverty—particularly single women and particularly single women who are divorced and who have responsibility for children and who did not get anywhere near their fair share of the assets at the time of marriage breakdown, with society in general being asked to do what we could have done as legislators—makes this a very important initiative that should be proceeded with at the earliest possible opportunity.

There are a number of other issues that concern me, but I want to move along quickly to an issue that has been of crucial importance to my party. I will deal with it fairly briefly, not because I do not care deeply about it but because I know a number of other speakers on this side have dealt with it, and I want to highlight it. I refer to the issue of youth unemployment.



I must say in all candour that as I began to assess in a speculative way what goodies would be in the speech from the throne as this government began to move into a period of an election runup as well as having listened to the Premier pontificate down at the Empire Club in February of this year and then having listened to the Treasurer do his own imitation of a Premier a little while later, I expected that this government, given that it had had months to study the issue with all of its experts, all of its bureaucrats and all of its political hangers-on, would come out with a bold strategy or a bold initiative to solve the problem of youth unemployment.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, in February of this year 163,000 of our young people were out of work; that is a 16 per cent unemployment rate. In my own community the rate is even worse; it is nearly 20 per cent. We are simply throwing away on to the scrap heap, in my judgement, a whole generation of our young people. We are showing them that we in this place have no vision of the future, that we have no ideas to present to aid them as they attempt to enter the work force and that we can offer them nothing but an early life of unemployment insurance and, even worse, of welfare.

I want to indicate what I think of this government's stated initiatives. If I were this government I would have given His Honour a pretty specific litany to spell out to the breathlessly waiting youth of Ontario in the speech from the throne.

Of course, the government does not do any polling over there, but I am sure it is well aware that Mr. Gallup did a little bit, and the government is now 2.5 per cent behind in the 18-to-29 age group. That is another small factor that should not surprise the government; given what the government has given them, they are now giving it back and they are going to give it back even more in the months to come.

However, I would have thought we could have got something more than some comment that "we are going to strengthen the Ontario career action program." Quite frankly, the Treasurer could have stood in his place when we gave him six opportunities in October, November and December and said, "We are going to strengthen OCAP."

I do not think it is enough to say we are going to strengthen our youth counselling. The Treasurer could have stood in his place any time last fall and said, "We are going to beef up youth counselling." What we need from this government, what we needed on the day this House

opened, what we need today and what we will need when the Treasurer finally screws up his courage to come to the House and present a budget, is some real meat.

I do not want to use the expression, "Where's the beef?" I see that my friend the member for Humber (Mr. Kells) laughs. But, quite frankly, tossing a couple more dollars at OCAP and a few more dollars at youth counselling would be funny if it were not so pathetic.

I know my friend the member for Humber has great influence in the caucus of his party, and I am sure he would want to remind the Treasurer and his fellow caucus members once more of the Ontario Liberal alternative. If it is okay for Maureen McTeer to suggest that Iona come into the race, it is okay for the member for Humber to support some Liberal stuff as well. Maybe it will move him forward in his political career.

**10:10 p.m.**

The program we proposed—we proposed it some six months ago, and we are still waiting for a government response—would guarantee up to one year's work for every young person from the age of 18 to 24 who has been unemployed for at least 20 weeks.

The work would be tough. It would be at minimum wage. It would include mandatory education. It would include mandatory counselling. But, most important, it would give a very important opportunity to a group of youths who desperately need the help of government at this time.

There is nothing in this speech from the throne to address that need. The government can throw all the dollars it wants at the Ontario career action program, but OCAP will not solve the problems these young people have.

The Liberal alternative, the Liberal policy, is to reach out to these young people and say: "We know your working life is not off to a very good start. You have been unemployed for more than 20 weeks. Or you may never have had a job. That has got to stop. You have to get the dignity of having a good and meaningful employment experience. We are willing to give you that."

To the dismay of all of us, this government utterly, totally and completely failed to address that issue. We can only hope that the message of recent days in the polling conducted by Mr. Gallup begins to get through to the Treasurer and that finally we will see some help for our young people in the budget.

I want to deal with three or four issues of local concern, starting with an issue that has become very important to me over the last few months. It



is one that is of extreme importance to my community and to the workers in my community. I speak of the plight of probationary workers—

**Mr. Grande:** Give us the details of your youth employment program.

**Mr. Wrye:** The member for Oakwood is so fascinated by it that he wants the details of the Liberals' youth employment alternative. As my friend knows, time does not permit me to—

**Mr. Grande:** I am trying to understand.

**Mr. Wrye:** It is an extensive program. This program is so important and so extensive that I simply want to send my friend the member for Oakwood all the details of the program and the case studies that we have done in three communities—Hamilton, Peterborough and, I believe, Sault Ste. Marie.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Timmins.

**Mr. Wrye:** Timmins? I thank the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope). The case study, I am sure my friend opposite will understand, is an excellent one.

**Mr. McClellan:** I will bet it is not as good as Jimmy Coutts's program.

**Mr. Wrye:** Jimmy who?

**Mr. McClellan:** Coutts; your new leader.

**Mr. Wrye:** The member for Bellwoods (Mr. McClellan) is announcing his support for the former principal secretary to the Prime Minister. I am sure Mr. Coutts will be delighted to hear that.

If I could get the attention of my friends to the left as they sink out of sight in the public opinion polls, I have an issue for the workers of my riding. I know my friends in the New Democratic Party still wish to support the workers; they could take notes and maybe we could work together in resolving this problem.

One problem that has begun to emerge, particularly with the high unemployment that we have, is the problem of the probationary workers in our society and what is happening with those workers.

What is beginning to emerge is that while there is a vast number of good employers in this province, there is more than a handful of employers, certainly in my community and throughout the other parts of the province, I am sure, who are prepared to take advantage of this tragic unemployment situation we have.

Recently, one company in my community hired 160 workers during approximately a three-month period. I think all of my friends on all sides of the House would imagine that when

one hires 160 workers, over the probationary period a few of those workers would fail to survive probation. They would not have the aptitude for the job, they would not have the right attitude or for a variety of reasons they would not survive probation. They might find that while they certainly had the aptitude and the attitude, they did not like the job.

At this one company, out of 160 workers hired, all but 25 failed to survive the probationary period. That means 135 out of 160 workers failed to survive the probationary period. It came to me as just an astounding statistic which tells me that only one of two things has happened, either that company has a personnel department which ought to be almost dismissed en masse because it has hired the worst potential employees possible or there is some game playing going on.

I do not believe the personnel department of that company is not up to the same quality and standards as other personnel departments, so I have to look at the second option.

We do not have to look very far. All of us who represent working-class communities know that in these situations where these workers are members of a collective bargaining unit, in the first 60 or 90 days they collect their pay, often slightly less than the workers who are on full-time staff. Post-probationary, they do not collect anything other than the statutory benefits given under the Employment Standards Act.

Consequently, the employer in this case simply ran workers through the plant. They would survive 56 or 57 days and they would be walking to the exits on the 57th day and they would go to punch out and there would be the pink slip, "Unsuitable," "Lack of work," etc. That is the reality of what they were facing.

I have great respect for my friend the Minister of Labour but on this issue he and I must dramatically part company. I have asked him repeatedly—and I repeat it here in the House tonight—to investigate what is happening in Central Stampings Ltd. It is a situation I find really quite disgraceful, disgusting and abhorrent to everything I believe in terms of treating people, human beings, fairly in our society. I am really quite amazed the minister has taken the kind of action that he has and stated, "No, I am not going to look into this matter."

I raised a number of other questions in a letter I sent to the minister in March and I want to put them on the record since the minister in earlier correspondence had asked me for my comments and for some of the matters we should be looking at in this whole issue of probationary employees.



I asked the minister five questions which I think are not unreasonable questions that we as a Legislature should be looking at, perhaps through the standing committee on resources development. I see my friend the government House leader (Mr. Wells) is here and I want to say to him that if the standing committee has a free week or two this summer this is something it might look at.

The first question I asked was, should there not be a statutory right of a worker to receive notification in writing of any matter which may negatively affect his probation before being simply terminated without warning? These are not very radical proposals, as members can see. I think they are eminently reasonable.

Second, should there not be some protection for probationary workers who are unfortunate enough to become ill or injured during the probationary period? One of the other matters that has come to our attention is the number of workers who are injured on the job and file for workers' compensation, as is their right, who then find in the middle of their receipt of workers' compensation or at the conclusion they are simply handed the pink slip.

Third, should there not be some protection for probationary workers who do not wish to submit themselves to excessive hours of work at the whim of an employer during a probationary period?

**10:20 p.m.**

It is fine to say we have a 48-hour maximum work week in this province but I challenge any member of this Legislature to find me any worker who is a probationary worker who would say no when he is told they would like that individual to work on a seventh day. The probies know that if they say no, they get the pink slip on Monday.

Fourth, should a trade union not be given some right to to be notified of the disposition of all probationary employees? I raise this for two reasons. First, it would certainly give some indication to probationary employees that there is some way their union is monitoring them during the probationary period; and second, it would alleviate the kinds of problems that happened at Central Stampings Ltd. and would warn the union very quickly if there were that kind of attitude.

Finally, should there not be some right of policy grievance or of automatic ministry notification where an obvious pattern of probation dismissals develops over a reasonable period of time, say six months or one year?

Surely those are not unreasonable suggestions; they are matters we should be looking into. If we are to be relevant in this place—and sometimes I suspect we are not; in fact, a great deal of the time we are not—then it seems to me it would be appropriate to address issues that are important to a very large number of individuals in our society.

I want to address two other issues very briefly, because I am sure the ministers or their assistants read through all of these responses to the speech from the throne just to find out if something was said that is important to their ministries.

I want to make a suggestion to the Minister of Health in his absence. I see the former acting Minister of Health, the member for Armourdale (Mr. McCaffrey), here and perhaps, since he is well aware of the issue, he will want to bring it to the minister's attention.

We have a commitment from the member's seatmate, the Treasurer, also a former Minister of Health, that we are going to get a chronic care hospital in Windsor; my friend the member for Essex North (Mr. Ruston) will remember that. The minister stood up almost a year ago and said: "I want a plan by October 31, 1983. Then we are going to start construction in May or June of the following year if everything is okay." We are getting awfully close to May or June and we have not started a thing yet.

Frankly, all of those people who were lying in the hospital corridors in the Metropolitan General Hospital, the Salvation Army Grace Hospital, the Hotel Dieu of St. Joseph Hospital and the IODE unit at Windsor Western Hospital Centre would really like the government, after about 15 years of talking, to keep the promise. It is really a little much to ask these people to lie in the corridors because the chronic care patients are taking active treatment beds. The time for that kind of action is long since past.

One other thing I would ask the former acting minister to pass on is that his seatmate the former minister suggested we were going to get 48 new chronic care beds; again, my friend the member for Essex North will remember that. The minister came into Windsor last year with great fanfare and announced we were going to get 48 new chronic care beds. Where are they? The clock is ticking. We need the beds and we need them now.

Very briefly, on a matter to the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow), it is all very nice that we have a timetable for the development of an interchange in my riding at the corner of E. C. Row and Dominion; but, as someone who drives along Dominion, which is



an arterial road, and who has to cross this high-speed expressway—there are traffic lights—I would just say for the minister's edification that twice within the last three weeks the members of this Legislature were almost sent to the hustings for a by-election as trucks went whizzing by through red lights at the corner of E. C. Row and Dominion. This member and other motorists jumped on their brakes so they would not be run down.

The minister has indicated that he has this in his 1986 budget. I would want to urge him most humbly but as forcefully as I can, because it really is a safety hazard, to get on with the job and do it next year.

Finally, I want to deal very briefly with the promise in the speech from the throne. It was one of the very few specifics this government made and I want to say that I appreciate the commitment the government has made to the retooling of our Canadian auto parts firms. I appreciate and support the promised initiative. I will wait, as I always do, in great anticipation for this to be brought forward in the fullness of time.

Quite frankly, that was one part of my private member's resolution last fall. In bringing forward the resolution, I hoped the government would see its way. The member for Durham West (Mr. Ashe) and the member for Chatham-Kent (Mr. Watson) both spoke in support.

I am sure they have been attempting to move this government in cabinet. I am pleased that all of us working together are going to finally adopt a positive new strategy on the part of this government; that is, not just blaming the feds for everything but once in a while putting its money where its mouth is.

I want to be able to wrap this up tonight. I wanted to speak about the disabled, but I will simply suggest that I hope the comments from the Provincial Secretary for Social Development on the disgraceful situation of our disabled receiving \$382 per month, as opposed to single elderly who get \$578 per month, will be addressed in the budget. It really surprises me that we could not have addressed that beforehand.

I am pleased the Provincial Secretary for Resources Development (Mr. Sterling) is here. I know he is personally very interested in this matter. I hope the government will take a look at this. I mean this very sincerely in a nonpartisan way. I always like to end my speech on something of a nonpartisan note. I want to commend to the government—particularly to the minister who has been concerned—my four-part resolution to help victims of Alzheimer's disease.

The Alzheimer Society says, "Let us not forget those who forget." Degenerative brain disease is an awful-enough occurrence without the additional financial and legal hardship currently being imposed today by the judicial system. Surely it is fair to give the public trustee the flexibility to delay the seizure of assets of a victim who lacks the power of attorney if the family is seeking alternative financial arrangements through the judicial process.

The entire procedure of applying for an order of committee ship must be streamlined to reduce the expense and needless red tape involved. I want to share with the minister and with the government some comments made by Ken Cohen, legal counsel for the Alzheimer Society. He has three concrete ideas on how the committee ship application costs might be reduced. I know the member for Bellwoods has been very interested in this.

He suggests that unless an appearance is filed at least two business days before the hearing date, or unless the judge specifically asks for the attendance of counsel, the application should be considered by the judge without the need for counsel to attend.

Second, he suggests the need to obtain and file affidavits from two physicians would be eliminated if the physician's certificate under the Mental Health Act were considered *prima facie* evidence of the patient's mental incompetency.

Third, he suggests the elimination of the confirming order by the justice of the Supreme Court of Ontario after one has been obtained by the county court judge, as is recommended by the proposed Courts of Justice Act.

I am just wrapping up, if members can bear with me for a second. The third part of my resolution calls on the public trustee to increase his accountability to the families whose assets he has seized by giving them an accounting statement annually, rather than solely on the victim's death. That is a moderate middle ground between some demands for a monthly accounting and the current system we have.

Finally, as a show of goodwill, the final part of my resolution calls on the government—I really hope it will do this because I think it would send out all the right signals in this terrible, tragic disease—to end its practice of channelling any profit made by the public trustee into the consolidated revenue fund and instead specifically earmark those profits as grants to Ontario medical institutions for research into degenerative brain diseases. This is only one suggestion.



Government members may have others we could look at.

That would send out all the right signals, some very important signals to those who suffer from or who have family or friends who suffer from this awful disease, that we are serious about and understand the immense tragedy they are going through.

I see the clock. I have so many other things I wish to say about this very poor throne speech, but I will leave with those remarks.

**10:30 p.m.**

On motion by Mr. McClellan, the debate was adjourned.

### COMMERCIAL FISHING

**Mr. Speaker:** Pursuant to standing order 28(a), the member for Essex South (Mr. Mancini) has indicated his displeasure with an answer given to him by the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope). He will now have five minutes to make his presentation.

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, you will recall on Thursday last I questioned the Minister of Natural Resources concerning the new issuance of quotas in the Lake Erie commercial fishing industry. I brought this matter up in the Legislature because of the tremendous outrage and concern this has caused along the shoreline of Lake Erie, where large commercial fishing industries are located at many of the small towns and villages such as Kingsville, Leamington, Wheatley and others.

After the issuance of these commercial fishing quotas, which were received in the mail by the industry last Wednesday and Thursday, and after representations from these people, I found it necessary to question the minister.

During my questioning of the minister, I brought to the attention of the House that the fish processors and fish packing industry, which represents 16 companies, had passed a resolution that asked the minister to withhold the enforcement of the quotas until October 31 of this year. They made this request because the minister had imposed these quotas on the industry at the commencement of the fishing season. Therefore, people in the industry have not had time to make arrangements with their financiers, their crews and their captains, and with the fish processors themselves, as to how they are going to be able to maintain their businesses.

The industry asked for this delay in the implementation of the quotas so it could continue to negotiate with the minister on a co-operative

basis, hoping to come to an agreeable conclusion.

I know there is absolutely no plan the minister could put forward whereby he would satisfy the entire industry, but I believe some arrangements can be made whereby he should be able to satisfy 75 per cent of the industry instead of having 75 per cent of the industry upset with his plan.

The minister brought to the attention of the House that the quotas he was allocating to the industry were double what the industry was able to catch last year. I want to remind the House that last year was a very poor year for fishing. We had a warm winter. In the lake there were what we refer to as junk fish that caused all kinds of problems for the industry. That, plus market conditions, was the reason the total catch in the lake was somewhat depressed. If the minister would go back and quote figures from 1982 and 1981, he would see the number of fish caught was substantially higher.

I also want to bring to the attention of the minister that a great many new people came into the industry in 1981, 1982 and 1983. Because of the way the minister has set up his quota plans, those people are not eligible to have taken into consideration the fish they caught in those years.

If a fisherman bought a dormant licence and went out and did a successful job, it meant absolutely nothing because the figures used to come up with his quota are figures that have been on the record from 1981, 1980 and, I believe, previously. Therefore, some people who caught 200,000 pounds of perch, for example, in 1981, 1982 and 1983, did not have this catch taken into consideration because the minister took into consideration the catch before 1980 and if the licence was dormant, there were no pounds to tabulate in the quota system.

The industry wants to co-operate with the ministry. The industry has a self-policing program it wants to maintain to show its good faith to the minister and to the general population of Ontario, to prove it does not want to rape the lake and does not want to ruin the resource we have. It appears there is a lot of pressure being put on the minister, probably from sports fishermen from Ohio and/or his bureaucrats in the ministry, who have been wanting quotas for a long time. In conclusion, I say to the minister his first obligation is not to his bureaucrats nor to the sportsmen of Ohio, but to the commercial fishermen of Ontario.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member would refer to the speech I made to the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters at



Windsor about four weeks ago, he would see on that occasion and on many occasions prior and subsequent to that event in conversations with sports fishermen, sports-fishing organizations and writers on the outdoors in this province I have defended the necessity of protecting and stabilizing the commercial fishing industry as a vital user of the fish resource of the province. I took that message to the Ontario federation's annual meeting at Windsor because I do believe it.

This process began many years ago before I was a minister. A joint ministry and industry committee spent some considerable time in arriving at a unanimous report on the modernization of commercial fisheries. Mr. Auld, my predecessor, wrote letters to every licence holder when he was minister advising them they should not assume they could gear up subsequent to the date of his letter and have that gear-up recognized in future allocations. At that time it was well known we were moving towards individual species allocation for each and every operator in the province.

We have not tried to adopt a system that will penalize commercial fishermen. On the contrary, as I indicated in my London, Ontario, speech in early January this year, we have made some significant changes in the modernization program as a result of more than a year of discussions with the commercial fishermen and other users of the fish resource. Those changes were for the benefit of the commercial fishing industry.

We proceeded through extensive consultation, including meetings in communities along the shore of Lake Erie and up through Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. We met with some commercial fishermen in Lake Nipigon a year and a half ago. We met with commercial fishermen on Lake Superior, from Lake of the Woods in Kenora and Shoal Lake, to discuss their points of view on the modernization program before we moved ahead.

The initial offer made last summer, which caused some controversy and concern, was modified substantially in the light of discussions with the Ontario Council of Commercial Fisheries and with individual fishermen. I indicated, for instance, that the initial yellow perch quota for Lake Erie was 8.7 million. That was adjusted upwards by 1.1 million on the basis of the best three of seven years system we put in place at a very late date to try to accommodate the commercial fishermen. We think we have been successful in alleviating a lot of their concerns with most of the species in most of the lakes.

We indicated to the commercial fishermen we would allow them to keep their licences and their quotas and fish those quotas while the appeal process was going on. We also indicated we would have an expeditious appeal process in place involving the commercial fishermen and the ministry in reaching decisions that would take into account two distinct and equal principles that are at the heart of our commercial fishing policy.

The first is conservation of our fish species in Ontario and their harvesting on a sustained yield basis in every lake in the province. The second, and equally important, is the continued economic viability of the industry and individual operators in it. We are trying to address those two equally important principles in the numbers we have laid out to individual commercial fishermen.

I want to reiterate very briefly that the net effect of most of these allocations is significantly more than the actual fishing levels in the last three years. It is somewhat less than the fishing levels in 1979-80, but in rounded terms significantly more than their average catch in the last seven years.

Therefore, we have attempted to solve their economic problems in the context of the allocation and will continue to work with them to try to make sure that happens for each and every individual operator and each and every lake in the province.

The House adjourned at 10:41 p.m.



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# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Thursday, April 5, 1984

Afternoon Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Thursday, April 5, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## BARRIE-VESPRA ANNEXATION BILL

**Mr. Speaker:** On Tuesday, March 27, the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breaugh) rose on a point of order with respect to Bill 142, An Act respecting the City of Barrie and the Township of Vespra. He submitted that the committee to which the bill had been referred in the last session no longer existed and, therefore, the chairman of the last session had no authority to report the bill.

I would like to point out that this whole procedure of extending the life of standing committees into the recess between sessions for the purpose of considering bills is a very recent innovation and no very clear-cut rules have been laid down as to the procedure to be followed when the new session has opened.

However, it would seem obvious to me that if a bill has been referred to a committee for consideration in the recess, it must be reported, and surely the committee in the best position to report the bill is the committee that considered it, particularly as the new committee had not been appointed. Therefore, it would appear to me that the bill was properly reported by the committee that considered it and is properly before the House.

I come to the further point raised by the member for Oshawa on Tuesday, April 3. He stated that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett) in a letter to the mayor of the city of Barrie said, "As I understand it, the schedule reflects a further refinement to the boundary in the Little Lake area." The member for Oshawa said that if this letter is correct, the bill that was dealt with in committee was altered by the minister before its presentation to the House.

I have been advised that the metes and bounds description of the boundary in question was inserted by legislative counsel on instructions from the committee at its last meeting and therefore the reprint, as it indicates, is the bill as amended by the committee. If this is not so, the minister should take whatever action is necessary to correct the description.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### DEATH OF WILLIAM BELMONT COMMON

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform the House of the death of one of our most distinguished public servants, William Belmont Common, who served as Deputy Attorney General from 1957 to 1964.

He was called to the bar in 1923 and dedicated almost his entire legal career to the service of the people and province of Ontario. He exemplified the finest traditions of public service. As a prosecutor, as a long-serving bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada and latterly as Deputy Attorney General he made major contributions to the administration of justice.

Having served with four Deputy Attorneys General, I know what a difficult, demanding and at times lonely job that can be. Bill Common had a lasting impact on the ministry. His personal example of scholarship, fairness and integrity continues to inspire our crown law officers. His reputation as one of the leading crown prosecutors of this century was one of professionalism and tenacity but, above all, fairness. For him the rigours of the law had to be tempered with human sympathy. His was a life totally dedicated to the best traditions of the law and of the public service.

He served on the Ontario Board of Parole for a decade, being chairman for seven years. His work was vitally important to the development of a humane system of prison aftercare. He had a life-long interest in penal reform, serving as a consultant to the Ouimet committee, which did so much to humanize our criminal justice system.

His reform work was not restricted to the criminal law. He was one of the pioneers of law reform in Ontario and the first counsel to the Ontario Law Reform Commission. To most lawyers, Bill Common will be remembered as the founding father of the Ontario legal aid plan. The committee he chaired drew up a blueprint for the delivery of legal services for the disadvantaged which is still hailed as one of the most progressive in the world.

Bill Common's last major contribution to public life was in the assembly itself. When the Clerk of the House was ill, he acted as chief electoral officer for the 1967 election. He served



as acting Assistant Clerk from 1968 to 1971. He was one of the unsung heroes who made our parliamentary system work so effectively. His children, Barbara-Lou and Arthur William, can take justifiable pride in their father's many achievements.

On behalf of the government and all members, I extend our sincere sympathies to them and to the other members of the family.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, we were very sorry to hear of Bill Common's death on Tuesday. Most of us in the House did not get to meet him until his career with the Attorney General's office had come to an end and he had retired.

He came out of retirement to assist the Legislature at the table during an unfortunate illness of Roderick Lewis, our present Clerk, and he was able to perform those duties very well. Even after Mr. Lewis's return, he stayed on as an assistant for a period of time. We remember well his friendliness and high good humour as he did his duties around this House.

It should be noted he came into government service as a relatively young man in 1926, and his abilities were such that he was able to survive a variety of government changes during those many years. He maintained excellent personal relationships with his various ministers and the political people of the day over a long and productive career.

This is in great measure a credit to his great ability as an administrator and innovator. As far as we are concerned in this House, his good humour and friendship to members on all sides were appreciated and will long be remembered. We extend our sympathy to the members of his family.

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Speaker, there is little I can add to what has been said by the Attorney General and the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk about Bill Common. It is upwards of 50 years ago that I first had the occasion to meet Bill Common socially, when he was prosecuting in the courts and I was a student at the University of Toronto.

From that time on, I knew I had a friend of long standing in the legal profession. On a number of occasions, I attended the Court of Appeal of Ontario in the latter part of the 1930s and after the Second World War when he was single-handedly conducting on behalf of the crown all the crown criminal appeals.

**2:10 p.m.**

He was a model, indeed he was a paragon, of what a crown prosecutor should be in the handling of appeal matters in criminal cases

because of his objectivity, fairness, knowledge and scholarship in the field of criminal law, for which I think he will be long remembered.

I had the opportunity to be here in the assembly briefly when he was Deputy Attorney General and subsequently when he served as Clerk in the assembly at the time of the illness of the present Clerk. His manner to Pat Lawlor and to me was one of kindness, unfailing courtesy and assistance in matters relating to the legal processes of the assembly and the work in which my then colleague the former member for Lakeshore was engaged.

Of course, he was a man of very advanced age. Thanks to the courtesy of the Attorney General, I had the privilege of spending a few minutes with him a few months ago at the home of the Attorney General. At that time, he was alert and continually interested in what was going on in the assembly.

He had a very full and complete life. He served in the Royal Flying Corps in the First World War and had a very distinguished career in that field.

One evening, as a fledgling law student at Osgoode Hall law school, I had the temerity to sit down at a bridge table with him, and, with the little knowledge I had of bridge, it was a disastrous evening for me. I lost a few dollars to Bill Common.

We will always remember him for the basic and fundamental framework he laid in his report respecting legal aid in the province. I hope as time goes on the legal aid plan will live up to the goals and objectives he set for that committee. They were very high goals and at that time were well advanced in the field of providing legal services to those who were not able to meet the costs.

He was a man for whom I had a deep respect. I will always remember him with affection and kindness. On various occasions in the course of my life, I appreciated the opportunity to have the associations with him that I take the trouble to mention to the House on this occasion.

On behalf of our caucus and the leader of our party, I extend the warmest sympathy to his children, in full knowledge they have a recollection of a father who was admired everywhere in the field of legal scholarship.

#### HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

**Hon. Mr. Sterling:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow) and the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier), I would like to table the highway construction program for the Ministry of Transportation and Communications



and the Ministry of Northern Affairs for the 1984-85 fiscal year.

In all, an estimated \$295 million will be spent for construction on the highway system in both northern and southern Ontario. In addition, we will be subsidizing municipal road construction for another \$254 million, which generates about \$508 million in total expenditures when the municipalities' shares are included. In total, about \$803 million will be spent on projects considered essential to preserve the present quality of the existing highway system, a system that ensures the efficient transport of goods and people in our province.

Briefly, we are proposing new work on a total of 1,163 kilometres of the provincial system, primarily two-lane highways, including the scheduled construction of 118 bridges. As part of the government's proposed expansion program under the direction of the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development, \$25 million is included for major highway projects in the Golden Horseshoe area.

MTC will also carry out the planning, design and construction of about 553 kilometres of provincial highways in northern Ontario, a system, I am sure all members know, funded by the Ministry of Northern Affairs, which sets the priorities for capital highway construction in the north. Again, the majority of the work is primarily on two-lane highways, although the construction of passing lanes, truck-climbing lanes and remote airports is also included.

Details of these projects for eastern Ontario and others are contained in the program I am tabling now, copies of which will go to all members via the legislative post office.

#### HEALING ARTS RADIATION PROTECTION AMENDMENT BILL

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, today I will be introducing a bill entitled An Act to amend the Healing Arts Radiation Protection Act.

The bill proposes to the Legislature the transfer of authority for controlling the installation and operation of computerized axial tomography scanners from the Public Health Act to the Healing Arts Radiation Protection Act.

As honourable members are aware, the Public Health Act will be repealed when the Health Protection and Promotion Act, 1983, is proclaimed in force. Therefore, a transfer of authority is necessary if current regulatory practice is to continue. It is clear that the Healing Arts Radiation Protection Act, which was enacted after the public health regulation took

effect, is the logical statute for maintaining this control.

Computerized axial tomography scanners are sophisticated diagnostic devices. Using a narrow X-ray beam, radiation detectors, computer print-outs and visual displays, they provide a cross-sectional view of bones, organs and tissues in minute detail. Invented in Britain in the early 1970s, CAT scanners have won increasing acceptance by the medical community.

Ontario's policy towards CAT scanners in the past decade has been based on two objectives. First, we are committed to ensuring that this advanced technology is available on an equitable basis to all our citizens who might benefit from it. Second, we carefully manage the placement of scanners because of the high costs involved. The purchase price of a scanner is currently about \$1 million and the ministry contributes approximately \$150,000 a year to the hospitals for operating expenses.

The bill will prohibit the installation and use of CAT scanners except in a hospital or health facility prescribed by regulation. The number of scanners authorized for each hospital or facility will also be set by regulation.

Current ministry guidelines provide for one scanner for every 300,000 referral population, with allowances for such factors as case loads, geographical areas and teaching requirements. Based on district health council recommendations, scanners are strategically located in major referral hospitals having properly trained staff and adequate patient loads for the effective use of the equipment. There are currently 33 CAT scanners approved for operation across the province.

The Healing Arts Radiation Protection Amendment Act, 1984, will provide legislative authority for the continued regulation of CAT scanners. The bill will preserve our current policy to ensure the equitable distribution of this high technology throughout the province and to avoid unnecessary and expensive duplication of resources.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: In relation to the statement made by the minister, I understand him to say he is introducing a bill to control the installation and operation of CAT scanners. Yet there is nothing in the statement to deal with the crucial question of how it is set up; that is, the operation of CAT scanners, not installation.

#### YOUNG OFFENDERS IMPLEMENTATION BILL

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** Mr. Speaker, on April 2 the Provincial Secretary for Justice (Mr. Walker)



informed this House of the proclamation of the federal Young Offenders Act effective that day. As my honourable colleague also noted, the Ministry of Community and Social Services is proceeding with the implementation of the Young Offenders Act in this province.

2:20 p.m.

The act is in many ways compatible with the objectives that make up the ministry's mandate in regard to children and youth and with many of the programs for young people in conflict with the law that my ministry has pioneered in recent years. In terms of the mandatory requirements of the act concerning such areas as community service, probation, open custody or secure custody, for a number of years my ministry has already had a full range of programs in place.

There are, however, certain provisions that are required to clarify the ministry's legislative authority. With that purpose in mind, I am introducing an act in the House today entitled An Act to provide for the Implementation of the Young Offenders Act. Officials of my ministry have been working on details of this bill over the last year in anticipation of the proclamation of the Young Offenders Act.

This bill has been designed to act as interim legislation until the proposed new Child and Family Services Act becomes law. At that time, the provisions of the bill will be modified, as required, and included in the Child and Family Services Act.

Let me now outline its main provisions. First, the bill gives legislative authority to the Ministry of Community and Social Services to appoint provincial directors, probation officers, program supervisors and peace officers.

Second, it gives authority to the ministry to provide services and programs, or make agreements with other persons for the provision of services, defined in terms compatible with the Young Offenders Act and the Provincial Offences Act. These include such services as temporary detention programs, open and secure custody programs, probation services and community service programs.

Third, the bill clarifies the ministry's powers to provide the temporary care and control of young people as ordered under the Young Offenders Act and the Provincial Offences Act. For example, it continues the ministry's powers under the Provincial Courts Act to apprehend young people who are absent without leave from places of temporary detention and to return them to these places.

Fourth, the bill clarifies the means for dealing with children under the age of 12 years, who will no longer be covered by federal statute. Specifically, the bill authorizes police to apprehend children under 12 years of age who are engaged in behaviour that would constitute an offence for a child over the age of 12 years.

The police will be required to return the child to his or her parents wherever possible. If the parent is not available within a reasonable time, the bill makes provisions for holding the child in a place of safety until that child can be returned to his or her parents. Children under the age of 12 years who require it will be able to receive further help and, if necessary, treatment through services provided under the Child Welfare Act.

Finally, the bill introduces certain transitional provisions to ensure the continuation of services to young people who are already in the system. For example, it provides for continued services to young people committed to the care of a children's aid society under the previous federal statute, the Juvenile Delinquents Act. It also repeals the Training Schools Act and certain sections of the Provincial Courts Act pertaining to observation and detention homes while, at the same time, providing for continuous service to children admitted to these programs prior to April 2, 1984.

In closing, the legislation I am introducing later today is essentially of a housekeeping nature. Its purpose is to confirm and clarify the role and authority of my ministry in the implementation of the Young Offenders Act in this province.

#### ADHERENCE TO INFLATION RESTRAINT

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, March 27, the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid) raised several questions concerning the remuneration of Dr. Alan Wolfson during his tenure as chairman of the Ontario Manpower Commission. I can now report that a thorough and comprehensive investigation into those allegations has been completed.

I am tabling today two documents: first, the report of the internal and management audit branch of the ministry dated April 4, 1984, and, second, Dr. Wolfson's memorandum dated April 5. These documents address all the matters raised by the member. They constitute, in my view, a complete and satisfactory answer to the questions that were raised. I have studied them carefully and I am satisfied the honourable member's suggestions of impropriety are entirely unfounded.



The questions raised by the member contain essentially two assertions of impropriety. The first is that during the first year of his appointment Dr. Wolfson was overpaid, and when the ministry discovered the overpayment, it altered in an improper and unwarranted way the order in council authorizing Dr. Wolfson's remuneration.

Although the amount of the alleged overpayment was not referred to in the House, it would appear from press reports that the member for Rainy River suggested that overpayments for the period in question were in excess of \$3,000. That assertion is utterly false.

The facts are these: Dr. Wolfson was retained in the fall of 1981 as acting chairman of the Ontario Manpower Commission at a per diem of \$300. It was understood from the outset that, because of other commitments, including the valuable work he was performing as the vice-chairman of the Advisory Council on Occupational Health and Occupational Safety, he would be available to perform services for the Ontario Manpower Commission only for up to four days a week on average. It was agreed, therefore, that while Dr. Wolfson's work week may vary in duration, his total remuneration for services as acting chairman over the one-year period of his appointment would not exceed \$62,400 plus expenses—in other words, an average of four days per week at \$300 per diem.

This was precisely what was paid to him, and there was no overpayment as alleged. The honourable member's assertion that an overpayment occurred is apparently based on his construction of the wording of the original order in council, which provided, in effect, that the work performed in a calendar week would be limited to four days. This would have detracted from the type of flexibility required in this type of arrangement. In fact, if the wording in the original order in council had been strictly interpreted and applied, the government's access to Dr. Wolfson's services would have been unduly restricted. When this was realized, the order in council was rectified. The rectification took place on April 1, 1982, by order in council 794/82, not in September 1982, as assumed by the honourable member.

The legal effect of the rectification was to validate payments made to Dr. Wolfson throughout the one-year period of his appointment, quite properly bringing them into conformity with the terms under which he was engaged. Contrary to the honourable member's suggestion, there was nothing clandestine about the rectification. It was

completely open. Orders in council of this type are posted as a matter of routine. The purpose of the amending order in council was, as I have indicated, to avoid any possible misunderstanding or lack of clarity about the terms of Dr. Wolfson's engagement.

Finally, and this surely is the critical point, Dr. Wolfson was paid no more and no less than he was entitled to under the terms of his engagement as acting chairman of the Ontario Manpower Commission.

Before I leave the amending order in council, I wish to address the member's assertion that it was approved in the fall of 1982 for the purpose of circumventing the letter and the spirit of the Inflation Restraint Act. This accusation is totally without foundation. It was passed in April, fully six months before the announcement of the government's restraint program, not in the fall as apparently believed by the honourable member. In fact, Dr. Wolfson did receive an increase in his per diem remuneration in the fall of 1982, but that increase was limited to five per cent, precisely the same limitation applied to all bargaining unit employees under the Inflation Restraint Act.

It may well be that the honourable member was unaware of the existence of the amending order in council passed in April. While that document was in the public domain, I do not believe it was supplied to him by my ministry. If he did not know of the applicable order in council, that might explain his apparent misunderstanding. To the extent that this or any related misunderstanding arose by virtue of incomplete or unclear material provided by officials of the ministry, I would be happy to have my officials meet with his staff to clarify any remaining questions.

**2:30 p.m.**

The second principal assertion by the honourable member is that Dr. Wolfson inappropriately billed the ministry for being in two places on the same day, working simultaneously for the Ontario Manpower Commission and the Advisory Council on Occupational Health and Occupational Safety.

If the honourable member will study the documents I have tabled, as I am sure he will, he will see his suggestion that Dr. Wolfson was billing the ministry for being in two places at the same time is inaccurate. The critical point is that there was neither billing nor payment with respect to the commission or the advisory council for services that were not performed.



It is true that on a limited number of occasions Dr. Wolfson performed services for both bodies at different times on the same day and was paid for those services. What the auditor's report deals with in the main is whether in all cases the precise amounts of the payments made were in order. This question involves a particular provision of the Manual of Administration, section 25-4.

When this matter was first raised several weeks ago, Dr. Wolfson was advised he could not receive more than one full per diem for services performed within a 24-hour period. Accordingly, Dr. Wolfson was informed he had been overpaid by \$130, and he promptly repaid this amount. The full audit, which I am tabling today, indicates that Dr. Wolfson was in fact overpaid by \$195 during the entire period of his dual appointment, and he has therefore now repaid the balance, namely, \$65.

However, the auditor's report raises questions about the all-inclusive nature of the provisions of section 25-4 of the Manual of Administration. It may well be that the intent of this section is to preclude more than one full per diem payment from a single agency for any day rather than to limit payments from two or more bodies for separate services actually rendered to each of them on the same day.

The point is an important one for those whose range of expertise results in dual appointments. Accordingly, my ministry has asked the Management Board for an official interpretation. If the response is that such payment is permitted, the result will be that the government now owes Dr. Wolfson \$325, together with reimbursement of the \$195 already repaid by him, a total of \$520.

The situation would therefore seem to be as follows: After days of investigation by ministry staff, the cost of which has been estimated very conservatively at \$5,000, we may find that Dr. Wolfson may have been underpaid by \$325.

Of one thing I can be perfectly sure. If, at the end of all this, it is found that the government owes Dr. Wolfson money, that conclusion will be small comfort for the personal anguish the allegations made in this instance have caused to him and his family.

We are dealing here with the professional reputation and integrity of a senior and valued public servant. He is a young man with a distinguished career in the academic world and, more recently, in the public service. In my view, if the member, as one of the watchdogs of the public interest, were genuinely troubled by these

matters, he should have discussed them with me before publicly suggesting improper conduct.

The conduct of public servants is certainly not immune from searching investigation and, where appropriate, censure. But I suggest we are always diminished when, for whatever purpose, we play fast and loose with the reputations of our public servants.

I would hope, therefore, that my colleague would take a different view of the circumstances in the light of the information I have provided. For my part, I believe the quality of our public service is sustained by mutual respect between legislators and public servants as we perform our respective duties. In this spirit I think the member for Rainy River would want to address himself to the unfortunate impact these inaccurate allegations have had on Dr. Wolfson's reputation.

Let me conclude by saying I have also taken the trouble to investigate the way in which this matter first came to the ministry's attention. On the basis of the information provided to me, I am disturbed by the investigative procedures that appear to have been followed by representatives of the Liberal Party.

My officials inform me that the matter was first raised some weeks ago by a person employed in the office of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson). That person stated that the member for Rainy River, in his capacity as chairman of the standing committee on public accounts, was seeking information at the behest of another member of the committee.

It was indicated that the information would be supplied to the member of the committee who had raised the matter. Indeed, it was further indicated that, if there appeared to be a problem, the chairman of the committee would personally discuss the matter with the Minister of Labour. We now find that, rather than treating this as a committee matter, the honourable member has used it for the purpose of questioning the integrity of Dr. Wolfson, both in the House and with the media.

As I hope I have made clear today, we have no objection whatsoever to making full disclosure of all relevant facts. I recognize that any member of this House has a right to obtain information relevant to the conduct of public business. However, I have two concerns. First, it seems to me clear that employees of political parties ought not to purport to represent committees of the Legislature; and, second, information given for the use of a committee should be dealt with by the committee and not by individual members for partisan purposes.



I am sure that in retrospect the honourable member would have preferred that the relevant inquiries were made in a more open and appropriate manner.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, because this was a statement I presume I cannot ask any questions; so I would like to rise on a point of privilege.

There are certain allegations the minister has made in the statement. They are fairly wide-ranging, and I would hope the minister would refer to the questions I asked. I was trying to put them in the context that the government was prepared to step on other people but not on senior government people.

I might add that the information that was used—we might quarrel or discuss how it was obtained—was information received from the Ministry of Labour, which also did not disclose complete and accurate information. The questions were based on the information we received from the Ministry of Labour.

In view of the serious allegations the minister has raised, I would hope I would be given an opportunity next week to reply in kind.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

### SHELL CANADA LTD.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry and Trade with respect to the pitiful lack of knowledge resting in his ministry with respect to the Shell Canada closedown and the subsequent loss of probably 1,000 jobs in Ontario.

In his defence of doing nothing about that closedown, the minister responded that some 10,200 head office jobs came to Ontario last year. The minister was ill-informed. He took his information from a Montreal Gazette article of August which referred to the number of head office jobs that had left Quebec between 1976 and 1982, but not necessarily coming to Ontario at all but going to many places in the world.

The minister will be aware, I am sure, from computer lists everywhere, that in 1982 we closed down 108 facilities in this province and we lost 10,931 jobs.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** In 1983 we lost 76 facilities in this province and 6,281 jobs. In January 1984 alone we closed down another six facilities.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** If he is not apprised of that, it is important that I point it out to him.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sure he is aware. Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** My question to the minister is a simple one. Why is he so pitifully ill-informed about what is going on in this province?

2:40 p.m.

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** Mr. Speaker, first, did I make an error with the statistic? Yes, I did and I did it personally; it was not my staff.

Yesterday I was asked how many jobs had come into Ontario in comparison with how many had left. I had certain information on a series of sheets in front of me in question period. I said to the press at that point that I recalled a figure of approximately 10,200 jobs moved to Ontario in one category. I also said, "However, I am not sure at this point whether that is accurate, so I will verify it."

I made the mistake of calling back and not reading the sheets. I simply asked one of my staff to tell me about the accuracy of the figure of 10,200. It was confirmed to me on the phone on the assumption that I knew the qualifications on it. I was wrong. Once in a while that happens.

The fact remains that the principle I enunciated is accurate. Over the last many years, this province has been the beneficiary of far more moves to the province from other parts of Canada than we ever have had in terms of losses, and it will continue that way.

**Mr. Peterson:** It seems funny that the Premier (Mr. Davis) is the last to know about it and that when the minister finds out about it and all the various attendant facts, he is wrong. No wonder public policy in this province is so fouled up.

My question with respect to Shell Canada leaving this province is this: What offer did the minister make, what negotiations has he had and what has he done to try to protect the interests of Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** What did you want us to do, bribe them?

**Mr. Peterson:** You bribe everyone else.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** If that is your policy, you are a great Canadian.

**Mr. Epp:** It is obvious you are embarrassed.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Not at all.

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** I am not at all embarrassed. I am proud to stand up and say Ontario has always been global enough in its Canadian approach to realize that once in a while there is another province that has certain physical or other reasons to attract industry. If it were not so, I would not be proud of winning the ones we do.



The fact remains that the resource is in the ground, and the taxation system is in place in that province to give the company certain advantages to be there. If we had that oil in this province, the Leader of the Opposition would be the first to demand that the company come here.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, it is not just a question of head offices leaving; it is also a question of people losing their jobs without real notification. It is not only a question of what the government of Ontario does not know; it is also a question of what the workers of this province do not know because they are not told by companies when companies make these unilateral decisions which deprive them of their work.

My question to the Minister of Industry and Trade is not why he did not negotiate, but why we do not have legislation in the province which guarantees workers information with respect to company plans and which guarantees to the people of this province greater information so we can at least do some planning and provide for the people who are going to be affected by these kinds of decisions.

Why does the government not have some legislation so it can talk to the companies with some teeth, instead of just gumming them to death when they meet?

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** Mr. Speaker, that is the kind of question the leader of the third party has asked many times. He would have so much legislation in this province that there would not be any industry moving here at all. That is the big difference between our two parties.

The one thing Ontario can do, and does do well, is create an environment that makes both workers and industry want to be here. We have the tax environment, we have the labour law environment, we have the resources and, in spite of all the negatives the Leader of the Opposition just spoke about, close to 200,000 more people are at work in Ontario today than there were a year ago.

**Mr. Peterson:** I find this response very disturbing, not only for the lack of information, because the minister is the chief public policy-maker in his own area, but also because if he is so little informed, it is no wonder we have problems.

The reality is that he does not know; he cannot find that information. He went to the Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs, where it was pulled out of a newspaper clipping, which was mixed up in the translation back to him; so he does not know the effects.

The Premier is bragging to me that Mobil moved to Ontario, in direct contradiction of his particular point of view that we should be happy when companies leave our province because it is good for the country.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** That is not what I said.

**Mr. Peterson:** That is what the Premier is saying. He cannot have it both ways.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** My question is a very specific one, which the minister did not answer. What offers did he put to Shell, what were the negotiations and what did the minister do to try to protect those jobs in Ontario? Second, what will be the ripple effect? How many jobs are we going to lose altogether as a result of this move out of our province?

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** I am sure the press release Shell put out yesterday will give the details, or at least the conference the company had would have given the details. My understanding is that there were between 900 and 1,000 jobs either terminated or moved out of Ontario.

**Mr. Peterson:** What about the ripple effect? How many thousands more?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** I keep pointing out to my friend that there are 200,000 more people at work in this province; he just adds one way. The members opposite lost an election being negative; they will get the name again. They just have to realize that the people of this province have more confidence in us than they have in the members opposite.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Peterson:** Are you planning an election or something?

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

#### INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health. I have written the minister on this issue, and he has chosen not to respond; but I think it is a significant enough issue to discuss in this Legislature.

As the minister knows, there is a large number of physicians in this province who have been trained in other countries, who have in fact passed the Medical Council of Canada evaluation exam and who would be entitled to qualify to intern if they could find a spot to intern.



As he also knows, there is a need in many communities in northern Ontario for physicians. I have spoken personally to many of these physicians—Polish, Russian, East Indian and others—who would very happily go to a designated area in northern Ontario and serve for an agreed-upon length of time in those communities, where we have a huge need.

Why would the minister not introduce special internship programs so that those people who agree to go and practise in a designated area in northern Ontario could get a guaranteed internship spot and solve the serious problem we have in northern Ontario? Why is that not a constructive use of public policy?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, I trust the Leader of the Opposition is aware of the complexity of the medical manpower issues that face not only us but also every other jurisdiction in the western world at this time.

I cannot recall for sure whether I have responded to his letter; I will check to see. I do have the matter he raised under review, though, and I am looking to see whether there are any realistic options I might pursue.

But I caution the honourable member to bear a number of things in mind. First of all, there are some critical problems in other jurisdictions with respect to medical manpower issues. Italy, for example, has 50,000 unemployed doctors at the moment; in France, in the environs of Paris alone there are 1,500 unemployed doctors.

**Ms. Copps:** Are you writing immigration policy now?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** All I am suggesting is that if he looks at the experience—

**Ms. Copps:** Do you accept immigrants into Canada?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** If the member could stop that yattering beside him, he might hear my answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Ms. Copps:** I am not yattering.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** She is yattering; as usual, she is yattering.

**Ms. Copps:** The minister is not setting immigration policy; we are talking about doctors.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: This question addresses an important issue of public policy, and I request that I have an opportunity to respond to it appropriately.

**Ms. Copps:** Well, please do.

Interjection.

2:50 p.m.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, I think that is true, but in my position as Speaker I am here to protect the rights of the back-benchers as well as those of the front-benchers.

I am going to call on the Leader of the Opposition for a supplementary.

Interjections.

**Mr. Peterson:** I have to ask a supplementary because you interfered with his answer. I think there is an important matter of public policy here. I will put it again simply. It is not a complex question, but a relatively simple one. The number of unemployed doctors in France has nothing to do with it. I am talking about people living here in Ontario, in Canada, now.

To the best of our knowledge, there are at least 418 of those people in the country; we do not know exactly how many are in Ontario. Many of them have passed the evaluation examinations and thereby would be entitled to intern if there were spots to intern in the province. I have spoken individually to many of them who would go anywhere in this province to practise, under almost any terms the government would want to set.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** I know qualified medical practitioners on welfare and mothers' allowance who are volunteering their time to our system, and they only want spots to enter. Surely the minister could meet two needs at once and satisfy the problem of the medical deficiencies in northern Ontario. Why will he not implement that relatively simple policy? It only takes political will.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** I can assure the member there is no lack of will, but there is a lack of understanding on his part in raising the question in that way. My reference to the other jurisdictions was simply to point out the critical importance of appropriate planning for the future in medical manpower.

We are doing things in northern Ontario. The member knows well we have a very successful underserved area program which is working well. We have added in excess of 26 psychiatrists in northern Ontario in the last few months as a result of a methodical and planned approach.

There is a point I would ask the member to bear in mind as we try to find a way to address the dilemma of the 400-plus physicians he refers to. I am aware of the situation, but I am also aware



that some of those physicians signed agreements with the federal government when they came to Canada that they would not practise medicine in this country.

That is not part of any agreement I am involved in, I can assure the member. However, the sudden influx of 400 physicians into our system, when we had planned responsibly for the provision of internship positions to match the number of graduates from our medical schools, potentially can seriously disrupt our system.

I am looking at alternatives. I can share the knowledge that I am looking at the northern Ontario situation in particular. I do not believe all those physicians could be absorbed in that situation, even if we wished to move in that direction or decided as a matter of public policy to do so.

I believe there is also a responsibility on the part of the federal government, which had an agreement with those physicians, to acknowledge that perhaps their appropriate placement in Canada has to be looked at on a nationwide basis, and not simply on an Ontario basis.

**Mr. Stokes:** Mr. Speaker, does the minister not know that there are dozens of communities in northern Ontario that spend tens of thousands of dollars every year making their annual pilgrimage to medical schools here, trying to convince young graduating doctors that northern Ontario is a good place to practise, to grow and to raise their children? Why do we always get the same cry from a succession of Health ministers in Ontario stating that there is no shortage of doctors in the province, only a maldistribution?

When there are communities in the north with a population of anywhere from 1,000 to 2,000 or 3,000 people, as in the case of Ignace, where they are having great problems attracting a doctor, why does the minister not make it necessary for the medical profession, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, to loosen the constraints and make it possible for offshore, well-qualified medical practitioners to go there to fill that void, and cut out this nonsense of playing around with doctors who want the good life in the south while the north gets neglected?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the situation the honourable member describes. I know he is also aware that we have been mounting a very significant effort to try to address those problems. I suggest to the member that if he were sitting in consideration of our estimates and the physician who is heading up our program were there, he would be singing his praises.

**Mr. Stokes:** I work with him every day.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Of course the member does; he knows he is doing a very fine job.

**Mr. Stokes:** We are still short of doctors.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Why does the member not join with us in an effort to try to encourage more young people from northern Ontario to study medicine? That might be one way to approach it.

**Mr. Stokes:** I am doing it every day.

**Mr. Wildman:** Do not blame the students of the north.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** More young francophones from northern Ontario, for example. That is also important.

The medical manpower issue is not going to be resolved overnight. It is not going to be resolved for the long term by reaching some three-year agreement with a physician who wants a licence to practise in Ontario. We must have people with long-term commitments to those communities in northern Ontario before we can really resolve the problem the member was trying to address.

**Mr. Peterson:** This has become a little bit more complicated than it has to be. We are not asking the minister to solve the world's problem with respect to an oversupply of medical practitioners.

Let me approach this question from the needs basis. We have an immediate need now in Ontario, and it is not complicated. In the Kenora-Rainy River district we need seven general practitioners and three psychiatrists. The Algoma district needs three family practitioners, three internists and at least one ophthalmologist. Thunder Bay reports a need for specialists, as does Timmins, where female practitioners and francophone doctors are in short supply.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** These people I have talked to individually, Polish and Russian doctors and others, would be very grateful to go anywhere in our province on almost any terms if they were allowed to qualify. They would go for two, three, four or five years if they could get a spot to intern.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** Since the minister is obviously incapable of solving the long-term problem, at least he could address the short-term problem. This an immediate way to do it. They are on welfare or family benefits now. It will not cost the government very much. Surely that is not too much to ask and would immediately solve the problem.



**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** Why can the minister not look at it from the needs basis at the very least?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Once again, the member realizes we are trying to address the immediate need. However, it is much more important that we also address the need he talks about in the northern communities on a long-term basis. The member's solution would certainly not achieve that.

I will look for any responsible, well-thought-out solution and I will indicate to the House at the appropriate time what I think that will be.

#### VISITOR

**Mr. Speaker:** With the permission of the House, I would like to recognize a visitor in the Speaker's gallery. He is the Honourable Andy Anstett, Minister of Municipal Affairs and government House leader for the province of Manitoba.

**M. Roy:** M. le Président, je voudrais prendre l'occasion de souhaiter la bienvenue à un monsieur qui a démontré énormément de leadership dans la province de Manitoba et de le féliciter de continuer le bon travail.

#### HYDRO PLANNING

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy. It concerns the prospectus the minister told us Ontario Hydro was filing with the Securities Exchange Commission with respect to bonds.

It is interesting that Hydro pointed out something in this prospectus I do not believe the minister has told the House about before. Neither do I think Hydro has made a definitive statement about it before. It is the confession that after a year-long study, which concluded that only one heavy water plant is needed to meet Ontario Hydro's present and future needs, it plans to mothball Bruce heavy water plant A by mid-1984, provided inspections confirm the reliability of Bruce heavy water plant B.

**3 p.m.**

Given the fact that Ontario Hydro has mothballed heavy water plant D at a cost of \$419 million, mothballed heavy water plant C at a cost of \$69 million, has finished heavy water plant B, costing \$914 million, and heavy water plant A is costing \$253 million, why has the minister not made a statement to this House about the colossal overbuilding of our heavy water capacity in the province to the tune of literally billions of dollars? Why is Ontario Hydro going to mothball a plant that is only 11 years old when the plant's

life is 20 years, without the minister even having the courage to come into this House and say what a colossal mistake has been made?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I think the leader of the third party is on one of his witchhunts again.

All this information has always been public. He has read it in the prospectus and it has been available to him on many other occasions. The revelations he is bringing before the House today, and those he brought last Friday, are on the public record.

**Mr. Rae:** Perhaps the minister can explain why Ontario Hydro could make a mistake in forecasting the demand for heavy water that is costing the province more than \$1 billion in construction and that has just been written off. At the same time, it cannot manage to find the money essential to protect this province from the growth of acid rain, the pollution of our lakes and the serious threat to our forests posed by acid rain.

Somehow Hydro manages to find hundreds of millions of dollars to make a colossal mistake with respect to heavy water but cannot get it right when it comes to solving the acid rain and acid gas emission problems. Can the minister explain how Hydro manages to do this, yet cannot find any money at all to solve the acid gas problem?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** The member knows very well the reason the heavy water plants have been mothballed is a reduction in demand. That has come about as the result of a slowdown in the marketability of Candu reactors and the insistence of the federal government that heavy water plants in Nova Scotia be kept operative in spite of a downturn in the world market situation.

I suggest to the member Hydro's record in its reduction of acid rain is eminent. It has entered into an order under the Ministry of the Environment and it will meet this order. Hydro's role in the reduction of acid rain stands out as an example for many other jurisdictions in North America.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, one of the burdens the minister is carrying on his back as the Minister of Energy is the broken promises of his predecessors.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will repeat what I said to the minister. One of the burdens the minister carries on his back is the broken promises of his predecessors, as well as of the chairman of Hydro, with respect to their



commitment to install scrubbers. They backed off from that, causing great consequences for us and the United States in lost credibility, as the minister knows.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** The minister promised and he broke the promise.

**Mr. Nixon:** Keep the promise. Remember that, boys.

**Mr. Peterson:** The government broke the promise.

How could the minister so easily find \$1 billion for Hydro to repair the tubes in Pickering 1 and 2 but could not find the \$400 million it would cost to install scrubbers?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition is asking how I found the money as minister, he knows very well I did not find the money. The cost of the undertaking to repair the tubes at Pickering, as he knows very well, will be borne by the electrical consumers of the province. It is a very modest cost of approximately a one per cent increase on the rate for next year.

I reiterate that Hydro's record in addressing the acid rain problem—

**Mr. Peterson:** I did not ask about the record. I asked about the scrubbers.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:**—has been an example all of us in this jurisdiction and in North America are proud of.

**Mr. Rae:** How can the minister justify the continued stonewalling on the basic question of the economic viability of becoming so totally dependent on nuclear power?

Why should we believe Ontario Hydro's story about what is going to happen with acid gas reductions, the changes in the 1990s and so forth, when the decisions that were made in the 1970s about heavy water were so catastrophically wrong, absolutely and completely off base, and cost us hundreds of millions of dollars and surplus capacity we do not need? In terms of public expenditure, those decisions were an enormous waste of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Why is the minister so afraid of having a basic public inquiry into the way in which this operation is running? What is it that is holding him back? It cannot be the figures, because as the figures grow it becomes clearer that there is a genuine problem, a financial problem, and it is something the province simply has to address in a public and full way.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** The leader of the third party took an opportunity last Friday to draw to our attention what he saw as being the economics of nuclear power. I think it affirmed for this House, and for anyone else who was watching, that the decision to go off coal and into a nuclear component was a wise and prudent decision.

#### FAMILY BENEFITS

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Community and Social Services.

Last night, at a poverty forum conducted in my riding, a welfare mother of six gave a presentation that was quite disturbing. She indicated that from her knowledge of figures, she would be better off giving her children to foster parents, who would receive more money to look after them than she had, and she was almost at the point of doing that. This morning, I tried to pull together my own figures to see whether what she had said was true, because it seemed quite astonishing to me.

I wonder whether the minister could verify for this House that in Toronto, a mother with three children who is on welfare would receive the maximum shelter allowance of \$699 a month, while the same mother on family benefits would receive \$800 a month to look after her children, whereas foster parents with three teen-aged children would receive \$1,239 in assistance to keep those children in clothing and proper maintenance.

Would it not be more appropriate if we gave money to the natural family to help them stay together rather than to the foster parents—who admittedly are doing a good job in the province and need an incentive—but would we not be better off investing in those families and giving them more money to look after their own children?

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** No, Mr. Speaker. There are a couple of very substantial differences. I would like to point out to the honourable member that the case of the particular woman who was at his meeting last night is very complex, and many of the things involved there were not told to the member or to the meeting.

In the first place, under ordinary circumstances, a sole-support mother with three children should not be with general welfare assistance.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** But some are.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** For a very brief period, and the member knows that. This particular woman has remained on general welfare assistance for a number of reasons which I am not going into.



A mother with three children would receive \$680 in family benefits to cover basic needs and a shelter subsidy of \$140. In this case, involving a mother with six children, as was reported in the paper today, the maximum shelter subsidy would raise the total to \$1,042 a month. In addition, when one takes into account the federal family allowance of \$180 and the child tax credit of \$172, that would produce \$1,394 a month.

**3:10 p.m.**

In fairness, the rates mentioned in the paper today did not take into account that the woman and her family are in a very excellent Ontario Housing Corp. development in my own riding, and they are paying a relatively modest monthly rental based upon their allowance.

In answer to the question about paying them the equivalent of a person who is a foster parent, there are some very substantial differences.

First, there are standards set by the children's aid society which the foster parents must meet. It has been traditional that the children's aid society provide the funds in the allowance to meet those standards.

Second, the calculation for foster children is the same for each child. If one has two children, it is double the rate for one child. As everyone knows, in the case of social assistance in this province, whether it is general welfare assistance or family benefits, there is an amount for the first dependant and then it is a diminishing amount for the second based upon the fact we are paying a family. Quite often a person who has one or two foster children has them on a temporary basis and quite often the children require very special attention because of the circumstances that brought them to the children's aid in the first place.

Quite frankly, what was presented in that forum last night, and I think the member will agree, was the worst possible case to try to show the difference between the two. If there were fewer children in the family or if the family was in a competitive rent situation rather than an Ontario Housing subsidized and geared-to-income unit, the rate differential would not be that substantial. In fact, it would be relatively close.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** I really resent the way the minister is moving the question to that individual case, which is his normal approach to dealing with cases. I was dealing with a matter which the minister did not respond to: the question about a mother with three children—let us stick to family benefits—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question please.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** This is a rather important matter. The minister himself just admitted that with six children the maximum received would be \$1,042. Then he went into the other additional kind of rebates. That is what he said.

The minister will admit that for foster care for three children, the family would receive \$1,239, plus all the other kinds of assistance it receives, but he did not bother listing on the other side of the matter when he tried to distort it in terms of tax credits and other factors in the equation. I was talking about an \$800-a-month family benefits person at maximum shelter, not in OHC. The minister cannot possibly tell me those are comparable; they are not.

Does the minister agree the discussion paper on foster care put out by the ministry says the reason the rates are put in there is to provide costs for the maintenance of those children and \$413 each is for the maintenance of each one of those children? It should be to ensure that fostering remains economically viable for those with modest family incomes. If we are making it possible for people with modest family incomes to foster, why are we not making it possible for people who are poor to keep their kids at home? That is what is happening, and the minister knows it. They are leaving home and going to foster care.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** I would challenge the member to produce the places where people are giving up their children.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** All right.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** Yes, the member has them. I would just be delighted to see them.

The fundamental question about a child who has been placed in a foster home, either as a society ward or as a crown ward, is the fact the foster home has to meet certain standards set by the CAS.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Do we not have standards for ordinary homes in terms of what they should have?

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** Is the member disturbed just because it is Thursday, or in his ordinary sense?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Never mind the interjections, please.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** There is a very fundamental difference. There is always a reason a child has been placed in foster care. That child quite often has extraordinary needs. When we are talking about the maintenance of a child in a foster



situation, it is different from that of a child in his or her own home.

**Mr. Cooke:** That is not true, and you know it.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** There is a great deal of difference.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** We are not talking about specialized foster care.

**An hon. member:** You do not know what you are talking about.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** As a man who no longer even uses his party label, the member should not look at me and say I do not know what I am talking about. He does not use his party label.

**Mr. Speaker:** Never mind the interjections, please.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** There is a fundamental difference between the two types of care. I believe what this province has done in the past few years to raise the rates in the family benefits area, and particularly the work that is being done under a number of special programs, one of them here in Metropolitan Toronto, to help get as many sole-support mothers off social assistance altogether, is work that is being copied and commended right across the country.

Once again, this is another attempt by what is left of the party of the left to try to introduce some type of computation situation in the hope that there will be some further adaptations during this year on Family Benefits Act allowances.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** One of the other presenters last night was the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto. Would the minister be as surprised as I am to know that among their clientele, the people they look after and the children taken into care, 66 per cent earn less than \$8,000 a year? Sixty-six per cent of the people with whom our children's aid societies intervene, in this case in Scarborough, earn less than \$8,000 a year and only 0.34 per cent earn more than \$20,000 a year.

The poor, because of inadequate amounts of money, are not able to have the same kinds of options as others and, as a result, when they get into difficulty their children are taken and put into foster homes.

I plead with the minister to realize that in Family Unity Month, my fellow Conservatives over there—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** We should be helping to preserve these poor families intact and not encouraging, through the government's financ-

ing system, the destruction of the family structure.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** If I heard that member say "my fellow Conservatives," it is a bad day. Did I hear that?

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** We all want family unity.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** Oh, how the radicals have fallen. I think the writ had better come if even they want to get on our coattails.

When one looks at the income statistics of the parents or the relatives of children who for one reason or another have been placed under the wardship of a children's aid society, I would think the income figures are not in the "earned" category; in many cases, the figure represents one form or another of social assistance allowance.

I do not really think it is fair to suggest that the only people the children's aid societies are interested in and have a tendency to apprehend, take into custody or put into foster homes, are those who are from homes with relatively low incomes. The test and the question are, should the child have been removed from the home? I think, on the basis of the work of the 51 societies in this province and of the ministry, the overwhelming response in those situations is yes.

#### GASOLINE PRICES

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question on the price of gasoline in this province and on the pricing policy of this government's oil company, Suncor. As the Premier (Mr. Davis) is away, I will direct my question to the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations, who I am sure will field it with his usual—

**Mr. Nixon:** Aplomb.

**Mr. Bradley:** —aplomb. I like that word.

3:20 p.m.

In view of the fact that in one hour on Monday night in many parts of this province gasoline prices at the pump went up by more than 80 cents a gallon, to use the imperial terminology, and in view of the fact that in some adjacent municipalities the prices may be as different as 80 cents a gallon—I am talking about Suncor now—will the minister use his \$650-million window on the oil industry and his 25 per cent of the shares of Suncor to attempt to persuade his company to dissociate itself from this gouging, or at least mishmash pricing policy in Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity to respond to the question the member did not want to direct to



me. Now that he has, I will endeavour to give him a response that I know will satisfy all the yearnings in his heart for an appropriate response.

**Mr. Kerrio:** I know why he did not want to ask you.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I am not talking about the member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Kerrio). Nothing satisfies him. We all understand that.

**Mr. Conway:** Surely the minister's chauffeur has complained about the prices?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** What?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Never mind the interjections, please.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Some guys go on and get their PhD and others do not.

**Mr. Speaker:** Back to the question, please.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Do you know whom I am talking about or not? You did understand that.

There have been, as the member points out, some drastic shifts in the price of gasoline in recent days because of price wars, but I think what the member has failed to recognize is there is now sitting a Restrictive Trade Practices Commission which is reviewing these very issues.

As he will know, because he has been a student of this subject for some time—has he not? I thought so—in February this year the combines division under the directorship of Mr. Lawson Hunter submitted its point of view with respect to pricing practices in the petroleum industry for the current year and current years, not just for years back in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Those issues that the honourable member has raised are now issues that, to the best of my understanding, will be considered by that commission which has been set up to deal with those very matters.

**Mr. Bradley:** That is all very interesting and it is an interesting commission. I will be interested in the results.

What I am asking about is this government's oil company, Suncor, the one it bought \$650 million of influence in, the window on the oil industry. What is the government, with its 25 per cent share, doing to persuade its oil company to dissociate itself from the obvious price-fixing going on in this province? We see several stations around with exactly the same price when they all shoot up the price.

What is the government doing to persuade its oil company to set an example for the rest of the companies in this province in terms of the retail price of gasoline?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I would have thought the member was standing up to applaud Suncor for the proposed \$10-billion investment it plans over the next decade in capital investments in this country. Is the member proud of that? Does he agree that this government made a sound decision when it entered into those negotiations and that agreement? If he does not think it is worth while that \$10 billion is invested over 10 years, he should stand up and say it is a bad thing to do.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** If the member has evidence that honestly leads him to the conclusion that Suncor is involved in some practices that are inappropriate, he should give that evidence to the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission.

If he does not have it, then he should not ask the question. In any event, I want to make it very clear that, in my view, oil companies, regardless of who owns them, should be dealt with in the same way by that commission.

#### TEMPORARY ABSENCE PROGRAM

**Mr. Breaugh:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Correctional Services about some rather startling revelations made by the chairman of the Ontario Board of Parole in a letter to the procedural affairs committee this morning.

Is it true it is now ministry policy to expand the use of temporary absence and not parole? Does this temporary absence program mean that prisoners can be released outright within a day, that there are no limits to the temporary absence program the minister is contemplating, and that 15-day leaves can be rolled over? If so, the net effect would be a temporary absence program with a mandate that exceeds that of the parole board itself. Is that the current status of temporary absence programs within the ministry, when we know of no public announcement to that effect?

**Hon. Mr. Leluk:** Mr. Speaker, I thank the member for his question. The letter at issue was delivered to my office by hand earlier today. Neither I nor my staff have had an opportunity to review its contents. I will do so when I return to my office later. I will respond to the letter and provide this House with details.

**Mr. Breaugh:** This is a rather amazing proposal that is outlined by the chairman of the parole board. Does the minister not think the public of Ontario and the inmates in the correctional institutions themselves deserve a



better deal than this revolving-door syndrome? I admit it solves the problem of overcrowding, but it does not provide for a fair hearing by an independent tribunal such as a parole board.

Does the minister not think, both from the point of view of inmates, who could have their freedom removed by an unnamed civil servant using unspecified criteria, and from the public's point of view, some better system has to be proposed than that currently proposed here?

**Hon. Mr. Leluk:** As I stated earlier, I will have an opportunity to review the contents of that letter and I will get back to the House with details.

### OSAP APPLICATIONS

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, I have a short question for the always cheerful, ever helpful Minister of Education and Minister of Colleges and Universities. Can the minister confirm reports from within her department that the distribution of application forms for the Ontario student assistance program to the universities and colleges of this province, which are customarily made available to those institutions in March, will this year be delayed until early May?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I am delighted the honourable member suggested I am always willing to be helpful. I should tell him, as a result of a request from a member of the third party, there will be a VHS and a television set delivered to the member for Windsor-Riverside (Mr. Cooke) for his meeting somewhere in these buildings this weekend. I always try to be helpful.

As to the member's question, no, I do not know that that is factual.

**Mr. Conway:** Will the minister give an undertaking to this House to investigate immediately since these reports do emanate from within the government itself. If they are accurate and the OSAP application forms, which would normally be distributed in early March to be filled out and handed back to the universities or the colleges well in advance of the students leaving for their summer break, are going to be delayed until some time in early May or mid-May, does the minister understand that will create great hardship for the tens of thousands of applicants who are looking for the forms and whose colleges and universities are this instant looking for them and wondering why they do not have them?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Although one always intends to have those application forms out as early as possible in the latter part of the school year for the students who are attending colleges

and universities, it has not always been possible to have them out in March.

We have attempted to have them delivered to the institutions a significant period of time before the students leave the institutions. They may not be able to complete them entirely before they leave the institutions, but the forms are usually there long before the students are finished, so that they will have an opportunity to discuss matters related to the application forms with the financial aid administrators and to complete the forms appropriately.

If there is going to be a significant delay, I shall most certainly find out why. I did not think there would be. We had one small problem that I think we solved. If there is going to be a significant delay, I shall report to the House.

3:30 p.m.

### HYDRO CONTRACTS

**Mr. Samis:** Mr. Speaker, would the Minister of Energy, who is responsible for Ontario Hydro, outline to the House what his policy is concerning the Darlington project letting contracts to companies located in Ontario? Ontario Hydro has been transferring work out of the province to plants located in other provinces.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, the member knows those are policies instituted by Ontario Hydro. I would be glad to make an inquiry on his behalf and to respond to his question.

**Mr. Samis:** Would the minister look into the case of Combustion Engineering, which has received \$5 million worth of contracts for Darlington, and \$3.5 million of those contracts are being transferred from the Cornwall plant to Sherbrooke, Quebec? I would point out that the Cornwall plant is laying off another 39 employees next week. In the last 18 months it has reduced the work force by some 80 per cent. What is the minister going to do about that?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Ontario Hydro has always made an attempt in allocating contracts to give as much work as possible to the industries of this province. The record speaks for itself in that regard. I would be glad to take the details of the member's inquiry and to pursue it.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that Ontario Hydro has now set up a social responsibility committee to look at the kinds of issues that are being raised by the member for Cornwall, issues such as the moving of Ontario Hydro's office from Orillia, will the minister make a personal undertaking to attend that committee and make presentations on behalf of



the people of Cornwall and Orillia to keep the jobs in their neighbourhoods?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, the social responsibility committee is a committee of the board of Ontario Hydro. It offers under these circumstances to meet with various groups, as it will in the Orillia situation. It is asking for input from municipalities affected by the proposed change. It will meet and receive this input and make a report to the board of Ontario Hydro.

#### EMISSION DISCHARGES

**Mr. Elston:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of the Environment with respect to the study entitled, Economic Incentive Policy, Instruments to Implement Pollution Control Objectives in Ontario, a report that was completed by Peat Marwick in association with W. A. Sims in July 1983.

It indicates that inadequate and not well-thought-out programs and policies of the Ministry of the Environment have led to a number of large industries getting away with high emission discharges in contravention of various orders.

Some of the companies identified are Inco, Algoma Steel, the pulp and paper industry, lead refiners in Toronto, and Junction triangle industries. Specific companies include Polysar in Sarnia, Esso, Ethyl Canada of Corunna—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Elston:** —Dupont of Corunna and Suncor of Corunna. I would like to ask the minister if he is taking the necessary steps at this time to develop programs that will prevent the continuation of those high emissions, and also if he will bring his ministry's policies in line to develop the instruments which will ensure lower emissions.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, the question is an interesting one. As I am sure the honourable member is aware, in a large number of cases the emissions he is talking about would probably be more appropriately referred to as "emissions" rather than "large emissions." In a substantial number of cases there is only a marginal difference between what the company's objective and standard are supposed to be, as established by my ministry, and what it has been able to achieve.

We have a whole series of things we go through, which I would like to share with the member. First, we have voluntary compliance, which he is aware of. We move from voluntary compliance to an order when that is necessary. We also move to a fine system when that is necessary. The fines are going to be reviewed. All we establish are the maximum fines in a

particular instance. It is the courts that finally make the determination of what the level of fines should be. The matter is under review.

It is somewhat misleading to suggest that some of these companies are vastly short of meeting their objectives when it is only a marginal matter in a great number of cases. As well, there are instances, for example with Ethyl in the Corunna area, which the member specifically mentioned, where the technology is, quite frankly, not available today to reduce the lead discharges from that particular plant to a level that has been established by my ministry. We are working with the company to try to control the lead discharges from the plant, and I hope we are going to be successful over a period of time.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** It does show up—

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you. Supplementary.

**Mr. Elston:** The report I had been discussing indicated, "Some authorities have expressed doubts that existing policy tools, including financial assistance, will be able to respond effectively to new problems." It does not feel this is a possibility. It says further on, "Individuals, firms and even government agencies generally seek to minimize costs," and, as a result, they weigh the cost implications of compliance when making a decision whether to meet those objectives or not.

How is the minister going to ensure that in every case the value of the environment is recognized in compliance with those orders, whether they be voluntary compliance or whatever, as the rule instead of the exception in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** In specific response to the member's question, as I have indicated, we are reviewing the system of fines to determine whether or not the allowable maximums in the various categories are appropriate to the situation the member is describing.

I can say only that the vast number of corporations in this great province of ours do comply voluntarily. To use another example the member provided in his comments, the Polysar corporation in my own riding has spent \$22 million within the last couple of years putting in a new biological oxidation treatment plant in that particular facility in order to meet the requirements of my ministry. That is a pretty substantial investment, I am sure the member would agree.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you.

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I was not finished yet, Mr. Speaker.



**Mr. Speaker:** Terrific answer.

# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour, who I see is making his way back to his seat, regarding the answer he gave concerning the isocyanate situation at Inglis in Stoney Creek.

Can the minister assure this House that the meeting to which he referred that has been arranged with the United Auto Workers will have in attendance Dr. House and the other authors of the report? Can he confirm that the authors indicated in this report that five per cent of workers regularly exposed to isocyanates toluene diisocyanate will develop asthma during their working lifetime? In fact, at Inglis it is already at 6.6 per cent.

If he can confirm those figures, how can he justify the fact that the criteria used by the ministry itself were apparently not followed in deciding what Inglis should be doing to enclose the isocyanates function?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I believe I can confirm that the physician in question will be in attendance at the meeting. I also would like to advise the honourable member, and I am sure he is aware of this, that the union has the opportunity to appeal the orders that have been issued, and we recommended that it take this avenue. It can appeal to the director.

With respect to confirming what the member read out a few moments ago, I assume he read it directly from the report; so obviously it must be correct.

## ADHERENCE TO INFLATION RESTRAINT

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: I do not have a full statement to make on the matter raised by the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) in answer to my question of last week. However—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. If the honourable member will resume his seat, I think he may raise this topic more legitimately in question period or during the debate on the speech from the throne. It is not a matter of privilege, with all respect.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** With respect, Mr. Speaker, if I may address myself—

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** The minister has made some very serious accusations about me that will reflect on my ability to function in this House.

**Mr. Nixon:** Right. No doubt it will.

**Mr. Speaker:** I find that very difficult to believe, really.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, surely under the circumstances you would hear what the honourable member has to say. I thought the comments of the minister were very serious indeed. All the members would like to hear what the member has to say in this connection.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, and that was the point I was trying to make—

**3:40 p.m.**

**Mr. Nixon:** It is a matter of privilege; his privileges have been interfered with.

**Mr. Speaker:** —that the member will have all kinds of opportunities to make us all aware of this. But it is not a matter of privilege, with all respect.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: I ask you to reconsider this matter. Surely, if you recall the comments made by the minister during ministerial statements, they have very far-reaching effects. As the member for Rainy River (Mr. T.P. Reid) has said, it will interfere with his duty to function as a member and as chairman of the standing committee on public accounts. I expect the House will demand to hear what his response is in this important matter, and I ask you to reconsider your decision.

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak very briefly to the same point of order. I hope you will consider that the minister was permitted to make a ministerial statement which took approximately 10 minutes, during which time he criticized, for the whole period, one of the members of the opposition. It is very unfair if members of the opposition are to be subjected to criticism by way of ministerial statement if we are not permitted the right to reply by way of a statement of privilege.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to the honourable member making a statement at this time.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is hardly the point. I do not think any of us has any objection to the member speaking. All I am saying is that it does not fall within the confines of a point of privilege—

**Ms. Copps:** It interferes with his duty as a member.

**Mr. Speaker:** Just a minute, please. —and there will be ample opportunity for the member to—

**Mr. McClellan:** No. There is no opportunity at all.



**Mr. Nixon:** It has to be raised at the first opportunity, and this is it.

**Mr. Speaker:** One moment; let me finish what I was going to say. If it is the wish of the House and we have unanimous consent, I will agree with that.

Agreed to.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, I will not spend time quarrelling with your interpretation. I hope it is not a precedent we are setting in this regard.

I feel it incumbent as a matter of privilege to rise in my place and respond at least to some of the issues raised by the Minister of Labour. I take them very seriously. These are not comments one would generally attribute to the usually soft-spoken minister. I personally take very seriously not only his comments but also where they come from.

I refer to the question I asked last March 27, 1984. I will not read the whole question, but I did say: "Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. I am sure he is aware of the cases involving the Sensenbrenner Hospital workers and the Etobicoke Public Library employees who received wage settlements that were deemed to be in excess of the restraint legislation..." In another part of the question I said, "Why can the minister show no flexibility whatsoever with the workers in Sensenbrenner and in Etobicoke, but the cabinet and the minister himself can so easily change the rules...?"

First, that was the context of the question. It was not a direct attack on the integrity of the gentleman in question whatsoever.

Second, the minister indicated that somehow, someone in our offices was using my name in a way the minister did not find acceptable. He suggested Mr. Sands was using my name as chairman of the standing committee on public accounts.

I have in my hand one letter from the minister's office, of three altogether, signed by Mr. Albert H. Ganesh, manager, accounting services. The letter is addressed to Mr. G. Sands, special assistant, office of the Leader of the Opposition, Room 211, Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, and not to me as chairman of the public accounts committee.

In terms of some of the specifics, I refer the minister to the orders in council under consideration. In 1979, the order in council stated: "Dr. Alan Wolfson, Toronto, be appointed for a period from"—I cannot make out the date—"at a rate of \$300 per day for time spent upon the affairs of the Ontario Manpower Commission

provided that the number of days so spent in a calendar week shall not exceed four days."

That was subsequently changed in an order in council of June 3, 1982, to the commission to "not exceeding an average of four days a week to a maximum of 208 days, with a maximum remuneration of \$62,400."

The minister's statement would indicate there had not been a substantial change except as it related to the remuneration of the five per cent from \$300 to \$315.

The question was based on information provided by the minister's own ministry in which it indicated—and we are using the ministry's figure—that there was a double payment to Dr. Wolfson on at least two days while he was on the Ontario Advisory Council on Occupational Health and Occupational Safety and at the same time he was pursuing his duties on the Ontario Manpower Commission.

The minister has indicated to some extent about the one hour spent at that time, but that position did not come up until it was brought to the ministry's attention. We were also told there were no billing invoices for almost seven months from Dr. Wolfson for the time he was applying for remuneration under his duties on the Ontario Manpower Commission.

The information I put in the question was based on information we received from the Ministry of Labour.

The minister has put himself in this position. I believe some of the statements he has made are blatantly untrue. I reject the attack on my personal integrity. I find that completely unacceptable. The fact remains that the people in the Ministry of Labour do not know what is going on there. I suggest a little more work be done in clarifying this issue.

In closing, I might add that I refuse to be intimidated by this kind of personal attack on me in this house.

**Mr. Speaker:** Before you proceed, may I have your attention, please? I ask you to withdraw the phrase that what the minister said was untrue.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, we had this argument in the House a couple of days ago when another member used the word "untrue" and it was not required to be withdrawn after considerable wrangling. I do not know how you are going to deal with the House on an evenhanded basis if you require it from one and not another.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the difference there was rather substantial.



**Mr. Nixon:** I do not think so. The same word was used.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would have to look it up. However, I think the allegation has been made and it is an improper use, in my own view.

**Mr. Mancini:** What about the minister apologizing first?

**Mr. Kerrio:** I think the minister made the allegation.

**Ms. Copps:** Yes, he did.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have no knowledge of that, with all respect.

**Ms. Copps:** You sat here and listened to the ministerial statement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Nixon:** Let us check the record on it.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think I will.

**Mr. Roy:** Can I get up on a point of order?

**Mr. Speaker:** On a separate one, yes.

**Mr. Roy:** No, on this one.

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

**Mr. Roy:** Are you prepared to listen to the views of the members on this?

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

**Mr. Roy:** You just make decisions on your own?

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

**Mr. Roy:** Who is it you are supposed to represent here?

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, if I may refer you to page 3 of the minister's statement—

**Ms. Copps:** "Utterly false" is okay, eh?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

Let me take a look at the record of what both parties said. I will deal with this in the fairest—  
Interjections.

**Mr. Martel:** Well, why do you not call the minister to order?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) will please resume his seat.

**Ms. Copps:** The Minister of Health (Mr. Norton) should not be suggesting that a member take a Valium. It is a very bad example to the people of Ontario if he is suggesting that a member take a Valium.

**Mr. Speaker:** Would you two like to carry on your argument outside?

I have said I will take a look at the record because obviously I have no documents with me to refer to. I will report back to the House.

**Mr. Martel:** It happens when it is this side of the House. Those were the minister's words.

**Mr. Speaker:** No. Order.

It was a matter that involved the two parties, nobody else. I will take a look at it and report back.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, this is not a new happening. This happens too frequently. In the first week of the House, I rose on two points of order. The ministers were making allegations about the motives of other people on this side of the House. I drew that to your attention, but they were never forced to withdraw. Either it has to be evenhanded or nothing at all.

3:50 p.m.

**Mr. Speaker:** I can assure you it will be evenhanded. I will take a look at the record and report back, as I said earlier.

**Mr. Roy:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: I want to speak to standing order 19(d)10, which I think is very relevant in the circumstances. Since I have been in this House, I keep hearing rulings from Speakers that make it very difficult for the members to know exactly what the standard is in this place.

When comments are made that members are asked to withdraw, this standing order talks about "uttering a deliberate falsehood." There must be the element of deliberateness about it. If one member makes an allegation that another member uttered an untruth, or something like that, in my respectful submission, that is not contrary to the standing orders. If he says, "You are deliberately misleading the House," that should be withdrawn. If he says, "You are misleading the House," or, "You said something that was untrue," that is not something that should be withdrawn. There has to be the element of deliberateness that this standing order talks about. That is the standard that should be applied in this place.

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not want to diminish the robust character of debate in this House in any way, shape or form, but surely we are all governed by the simple fact that we are elected by our constituents to set an example and to protect the rights to freedom of speech and other matters, not only for our constituents but also for ourselves. I think we should conduct ourselves along those lines.

All I am saying is that your use of language in this House should be tempered to the same extent as when you carry on a conversation within the confines of your own home. I am not trying to diminish the debate.



**Mr. Martel:** That might be total war.

**Mr. Speaker:** With all respect, you know—well, I will not say it. But I will take a look at the record and I will make a ruling tomorrow. How is that?

**An hon. member:** That is fine.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you very much.

#### PARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE

**Ms. Copps:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: Bearing in mind the admonition you have given to all the members of the House, you will no doubt be aware of a comment that was made in the course of our discussions by the Minister of Health, in which he suggested to me, because of my concern about the Speaker's ruling, that I should "take a Valium." As a member of the Legislature and certainly as the opposition Health critic, I find that an offensive and gratuitous remark, and I wish he would withdraw it.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, I assure you that I find the nattering of the honourable member offensive as well, especially when she gears up at the moment someone is trying to answer a question. I do not think my remark was at all appropriate, because I am not sure one Valium would work; it probably would take two or three.

**Mr. Nixon:** That is not good enough.

**Mr. Speaker:** Surely the minister is not putting himself in a position of practising medicine. Perhaps he should confer with his colleague directly behind him.

Interjections.

**Ms. Copps:** On the same point, Mr. Speaker, "nattering," "take a Valium" and all the other gratuitous remarks by the minister are unacceptable and should not be allowed in this House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

This is the same point to which I was addressing myself. I am certainly not going to put myself in a position of cutting down on the cut and thrust of the debate, the remarks that go back and forth.

**Mr. Nixon:** Cut and thrust! It is just such bad judgement that you should be assisting the minister in correcting the record.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will not respond to that.

#### PETITIONS

##### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. Kolyn:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of several colleagues and myself, I have the following petition:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Pollock:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Rotenberg:** Mr. Speaker, I have a similar petition asked to be presented by the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario for those members in my riding who are concerned with this issue. I would note that there is one name on the petition.

**Mr. Riddell:** I have a petition, Mr. Speaker, signed by constituents of the Huron-Middlesex riding.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal



value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

### INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, I have the following petition:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to appeal to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"We, the undersigned electors and residents of regional Niagara, respectfully petition for your support to redress a serious injustice in current educational policy and practice. The facts are simple.

"In the past five years, parents who send their children to the independent schools have contributed \$1 billion for education in Ontario without receiving a cent for the education of their own children. In fact, they have had to bear a double burden through fees and contributions for their own independent schools.

"Furthermore, in a democratic and multi-cultural society, parents should have the right to send their children to schools of choice without a financial penalty. This is recognized partially in the case of Catholic families with minor exceptions and fully in the case of Franco-Ontarians. It should apply equally to all."

This petition is signed by 87 people. The petitioners are proud of their Christian schools and rightly so. There are problems of financing and this petition deserves serious consideration.

**Mr. G. I. Miller:** Mr. Speaker, I too have a petition from the riding of Haldimand-Norfolk.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to appeal to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"We, the undersigned electors of Haldimand-Norfolk, appeal to the Legislature to provide form, substance and law for the basic human right of parents in Ontario to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children. The present education policy provides no guarantee for the existence of independent schools that are one of the concrete expressions of this basic parental right. Parents of these schools also face a form of financial jeopardy through a lack of access to the taxes they pay in support of education. We ask you to change this situation."

It is signed by approximately 64 people.

### MOTION

#### COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTION

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the following substitution be made: on the standing committee

on resources development, Mr. Yakabuski for Mr. Wiseman.

Motion agreed to.

4 p.m.

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### HEALING ARTS RADIATION PROTECTION AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. Norton moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Wells, first reading of Bill 27, An Act to amend the Healing Arts Radiation Protection Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, having made a statement during ministerial statements earlier today, I have nothing to add at this time.

#### YOUNG OFFENDERS IMPLEMENTATION ACT

Hon. Mr. Drea moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Norton, first reading of Bill 28, An Act to provide for the Implementation of the Young Offenders Act, Canada.

Motion agreed to.

**Hon. Mr. Drea:** Mr. Speaker, I believe my statement earlier today covered the matter. However, in the light of a couple of comments, one at the time I made the statement and one a moment ago, I would like to emphasize that this bill covers only juveniles up to the age of 16.

#### CORONERS AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Wildman moved, seconded by Mr. Samis, first reading of Bill 29, An Act to amend the Coroners Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, this bill would require inquests into all accidental deaths in work places in Ontario. It would extend standing at those inquests to worker representatives on the joint health and safety committees of the affected work places established under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, and to trade union representatives.

It would also require the Ministry of Labour to deal in its annual report with verdicts given and recommendations made in those inquests, and to advise persons who had standing at the inquests of the actions taken on the recommendations and provide reasons if no action has been taken. In 1982 and 1983, approximately only 50 per cent of all the work-place deaths resulted in inquests. The Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) has indicated his support for this bill so I hope the government will move on it.



## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Lupusella:** Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to rise today and give my personal contribution on the content of the speech from the throne. I am glad to see the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) in the Legislature, because I am going to make particular reference to a subject that will be of great interest to thousands of injured workers across Ontario.

I am not sure of the minister's schedule. I am going to tackle this issue at the very beginning so that if his schedule will not permit him to stay here, at least he will have an opportunity to hear my personal comments and my contribution to the issue of reshaping the Workers' Compensation Board in Ontario.

The other reason I am rising in this Legislature today is that I think the community I represent in Dovercourt is suffering enormously the grave consequences of the economic situation Ontario faces today, and I hope I will be able to make specific suggestions to the government to ensure that the problems will be alleviated in the near future.

As a result of this urgency, and because I feel compelled to be the spokesperson for their problems in the Legislature, I hope the government will listen very carefully to the situation affecting the residents of the area I represent, the great riding of Dovercourt, and that the government will take action on the problems that exist as a result of the economic crisis that has been affecting Ontario since 1981.

I would also like to remind the members I am speaking as a result of the amendment to the motion that was amended by adding the following immediately before the last line. The New Democratic Party:

"Further condemns the government for:

"Following the example of the Liberal government in Ottawa in cutting back on funding for social housing, education and health care programs;

"The inadequacy of its efforts in affirmative action and, in particular, its failure to require affirmative action programs for all employers of 20 or more people;

"Continuing to ignore the need for strong legislation on plant closures requiring full disclosure and public justification of closure decisions and protecting fully all workers affected;

"The continued failure of the government to provide for early retirement for older workers;

"Its failure to begin the major reform of the social security system that is needed to cope with the devastating economic changes taking place in the province, and in particular, its failure to advocate a major expansion of the public pension system in Ontario and in Canada, including the Canada pension plan;

"Its total neglect of the problem of poverty and of the need for tax reform, causing extreme hardship for growing numbers of families and individuals;

"The lack of any commitment on the part of the government to community economic development and to generating new forms of social capital for investment in job creation;

"Producing a plan for the Niagara Escarpment which completely retreats from the principle of protecting this unique resource in areas like the Beaver Valley;

"Failing to follow the example of other provinces in introducing a red meat stabilization program;

"Its failure to eliminate extra billing by doctors;

"Its failure to shift resources to a not-for-profit model in the provision of nursing home care and its refusal to require any genuine accountability on the part of private nursing home operators for either the quality of care or the expenditure of public funds;

"Its refusal to provide for lifetime indexed pensions for nonoccupational losses such as pain and suffering resulting from compensable injuries under workers' compensation."

Again, besides the particular issues I am going to raise in the course of my debate, I am going to tackle the issue of the refusal to provide for lifetime indexed pensions for nonoccupational losses such as pain and suffering resulting from compensable injuries under workers' compensation.

**4:10 p.m.**

I want to begin with that issue because the Minister of Labour is here. As I stated previously, I am going to talk about other issues as well but I want to start off with this issue because the government should take immediate steps to introduce legislation. Thousands of injured workers demonstrated in front of Queen's Park



and many appeared before the resources development committee, rejecting proposals made by Professor Weiler and the government white paper.

I was asked by some of my colleagues to give a historical perspective about the Workers' Compensation Board, but I want to limit the length of my speech. In the near future we are going to have ample opportunity to talk about this issue, the WCB and reforms which will be introduced by the government. I think at that time I will be able to give my own historical perspective of the WCB and how injured workers across Ontario will be affected.

The Minister of Labour did not have an opportunity to attend the sitting of the resources development committee about last March 6, or even before, because he was busy elsewhere. However, he wrote to each member of the committee stating he would take a close look at the comments each member made. He said some action would be taken as a result of issues that each member would raise.

With due respect to the minister, I am getting deeply frustrated in relation to the whole matter of the WCB. Each year the board has an opportunity to appear before a committee of the Legislature to give us ample illustration of the year's activities. My frustration is deeply rooted because we raise the same issues each year and though the board and the chairman promise action we do not see changes taking place.

Every year we present the same criticisms. My frustration became so great I told the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board that next year I will make photocopies of my past criticisms of the WCB and will send them to him without further comment. I think other members are confronted with the same dilemma. They raise the same criticisms over and over again and receive specific promises that things at the WCB will change. But I have seen nothing done. I am the critic of the WCB for my party and I am more involved in what is happening at the board level than many members.

In the spirit of reform, we have been confronted lately by a devastating increase in appeals coming from employers across Ontario. I use the word "devastating" because employers now are hiring solicitors to represent them before the board. On the latest one, dated October 1983, I spent five hours down there representing a constituent of mine. The same lawyer is shopping around employers and trying to give a hard time to injured workers who have been recognized by the board. These workers have been

receiving permanent disability awards from the Workers' Compensation Board as a result of a compensable injury.

We were faced with this solicitor, and companies are hiring private investigators to follow injured workers on a 24-hour basis. They are introducing as exhibits photographs taken in front of the injured workers' houses and trying to gather comments or affidavits from people living close to injured workers. The same solicitor is trying to discredit the reputation of injured workers and trying to convince the board a permanent disability award is not in order because he has been using independent specialists. They have never met the injured worker and yet they come out with the specific position that the pension was not appropriate.

I won the case on which I spent the five hours. The person I represented had family problems, a marriage breakdown and a serious injury. A permanent disability award was granted by the board. The first issue raised by the employer, in co-operation with his solicitor, was that the benefits were not appropriate because no accident took place. The board recognized the accident as being compensable. When the lawyer lost that case, he picked up the other issue, which was that the permanent disability award was not appropriate.

This poor woman is suffering a nervous breakdown and now there will be another appeal. The solicitor is appealing the decision of the adjudicator. I do not know when the appeal date will be set. If the employer has a good reason to appeal without alienating and without causing devastating effects on the injured workers, I really do not mind. But when I see cases which in my opinion are frivolous, I do not think they are helpful. Injured workers have been accused in the past of using frivolous ways to get money from the Workers' Compensation Board, but I think this situation is taking place now among employers and I do not think it will help the principle of reshaping the WCB.

Keeping this in mind, I would like to remind the Minister of Labour that injured workers across the province are not happy. Two or three weeks ago he received a letter from the umbrella organization representing injured workers across the province about different comments which have been made in relation to the reshaping of the WCB. Our concern about the whole issue has been widely presented in our dissenting report, which was contained in the final report of the standing committee on resources development, December 1983.



4:20 p.m.

Going back to the same principle, we are faced across the province with a large majority of injured workers rejecting the principle of reshaping the Workers' Compensation Board in the way that has been suggested by Professor Weiler and by the government white paper. There are 21 points of reform.

I notice in the speech from the throne that the government will introduce legislation in the near future to reform the WCB without taking into consideration the dissenting reports drafted by both the Liberal Party and the New Democratic Party. We know that part of the majority report has been rejected by the majority of injured workers across Ontario.

I do not think I was witness to any statement that was eventually made—I do not think it was ever made by the Minister of Labour—that the injured workers' concerns would be taken into consideration to make sure their problems would be alleviated in the way they want and not in the way the government is planning to pursue this issue in the near future.

We know that injured workers would like to have pensions for life. The mandate given to Professor Weiler was a widespread study of the whole operation in regard to injured workers. Keeping in mind the sense of reforms, he came out with proposals. When the committee of the Legislature was appointed to study his report and also to study the government white paper and the 21 proposals, we were faced as a committee with even government members repudiating and rejecting proposals made by Professor Weiler.

That situation was very disturbing. It disturbed me at the time. When 2,000 injured workers appeared before the committee in front of Queen's Park to make their point, to make known to the committee their position on the 21 proposals, the government members were not moved by their presence to take their position into consideration so that the government at the time of introduction of the new law would reflect their concern about the new law.

I do not want to go back to a historical perspective, but I think it is appropriate. I do not know if the Minister of Labour will be busy later on. That is why I am tackling this issue now. Going back to the time when the Workmen's Compensation Act was first introduced in Ontario, we know that people across the province were never happy with the content of the act. They have been crying—injured workers in particular—for reform of the act and reform at the administrative or board level.

I think the new law will create more problems than we have witnessed in the past. I do not think it is fair to pursue it on the same line. Workers across Ontario, after giving their best economic contribution to and for the province, have been unfortunate enough to be faced with injuries that have disabled them for the rest of their lives. Some lost their lives as a result of the work they were performing.

When Professor Weiler was appointed and the white paper was printed, I thought we were supposed to talk about real reform, rather than be faced with the regressive positions that have been widely accepted by members of the Conservative Party.

I want the Minister of Labour in particular to know I am very disappointed in this respect. I hope the new law that has been announced through the contents of the speech from the throne on page 20 will reflect the needs and concerns that injured workers across Ontario expressed before the committee, before the Minister of Labour and before the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board.

The speech from the throne of March 20, 1984, sets out the following on page 20: "Following careful and extensive consultations, the government will be introducing in this session reforms to the workers' compensation system, ranging from the benefit structure to improved labour and business representation on the corporate board."

The statement is general and open to interpretation, but because I have been deeply involved in the process of the Workers' Compensation Board reform and the study of Professor Weiler and the white paper, I know what kind of law will be introduced in the Legislature. I am sure the needs of injured workers and their particular positions will not be considered at the time the government introduces the new law, unless the Minister of Labour makes a ministerial statement in the Legislature, which will give us an opportunity to find out the direction in which the government is planning to move and also to make sure that injured workers across Ontario will have an opportunity to respond to the new guidelines which will be concretized in the new act in order to make sure their problems will be taken into consideration.

Again, as I stated in the course of the resources development committee hearings, when the chairman of the board was before us and when he was first appointed chairman of the board he said he was full of goodwill and energy to make sure the board would work properly on behalf of



injured workers. I had an opportunity, and I hope the minister has had an opportunity, to contribute to the remarks we made as critics, both Liberal and New Democrat.

I am sure he will find there are particular loopholes that are completely unacceptable to injured workers across the province. I think the board is not giving at the present time, as it has not given in the past, the service injured workers deserve. I hope this situation will be resolved in one way or another.

What I heard in the past was the promise every year that our concern would be heard, that action would be taken and that the criticism would be considered by officials of the compensation board. But I got the impression, especially when they appeared before us, that something grossly wrong is going on at that level, which needs the minister's intervention at this time to make sure the problems will be resolved.

**4:30 p.m.**

In particular, I think the rehabilitation department, as he is well aware, is in complete disarray. Injured workers are not receiving the service they deserve. A lot of injured workers with permanent disability awards of about 10 per cent are not receiving supplementary pensions. The Minister of Labour told me they are entitled to them, but from what I have seen through concrete case work, I think a lot of injured workers have been losing the benefits of the supplementary pension. In my personal interpretation, that is related to the particular factor that the 10 per cent disability award is too low and, therefore, injured workers look for a job on their own.

I will go back to the subject of the WCB in a moment, but I want to talk about injured workers and disabled people across Ontario. Having been an organizer for injured workers before being elected in 1975, and now as the New Democratic Party critic on workers' compensation, I was and am deeply aware of the immense personal tragedy that illness or injury brings to a person, especially if permanent disability is involved. On top of this, our present system heaps on the humiliation of having to grovel before mounds of red tape to get compensation that is inadequate.

While we have been able to achieve some minor victories in WCB reform, as a party we are committed to fight not only to improve the present system, but also for a just system of universal accident and sickness benefits for injured workers across Ontario. It is only a part measure. Injured workers would like to work, as would all the unemployed people in Ontario.

They want to be self-supporting members of society. So we must talk about the broader problem of unemployment when we talk about injured workers and the permanent disability pensions given to them as a result of their injuries.

With that in mind, I think the WCB and the need to create jobs across Ontario are interrelated and are an integral part of what the government should do in relation to solving the unemployment crisis in the province. Injured workers are hard hit, especially at a time when a pension is granted to them in the range of 20 to 25 or 30 per cent.

Finding a light job is a very difficult task. My constituency office has been flooded with people who have that problem. I really feel sorry for them. I have no real answer for them except to promise I will bring their concerns to the floor of the Legislature in the hope the government will do something about them.

As I said before, in talking about reform, I do not foresee such reform on behalf of injured workers. I do not see the economic environment allowing them and other unemployed people to go back to work and sustain their families properly. My area is greatly affected by this problem. The government should spell out concrete programs so people can get some assistance and help. In the final analysis, the family will receive some help as a result of the economic growth.

We have been talking about economic recovery for so many years now. We have been faced with a recession since 1981. We are talking about signs of recovery at the federal and provincial levels, but I think my constituents in the Dovercourt area are not yet seeing the signs of recovery because they are unemployed. They exhausted the savings they made when economic growth in the province was good and now their unemployment insurance benefits have run out. They cannot apply for welfare or family benefits because of their savings. I think this situation is becoming intolerable. They come to my office and ask me what is going on at the provincial level.

I wrote a letter to Ottawa in 1982 or 1983. In particular, I wrote a letter to the leader of the New Democratic Party to raise this specific question, to move the federal government to help people who had exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits. I asked them to do something about it because these people were without jobs and it was affecting their families, even causing psychological problems for their children.



The question was raised at the provincial level. In 1982 and 1983 the provincial government was accusing the federal government of being the cause of our economic problems, rather than taking specific steps to help people and trying to do something about it. I think the provincial government at the time, and even today, is irresponsible. The speech from the throne is really so vague. It gives us no opportunity to determine the validity of the programs that will be implemented in the near future.

I do not know what kind of benefits my constituents who have been unemployed for two or three years will receive. Now they have had the false promise that there is an economic recovery and in the near future they will have better opportunities to find employment. I find this very regrettable.

I have some union halls located in my area. When I pass by them, there is usually a long line of people. The people are there because they are searching for employment and because they belong to the union. They have their own guidelines and there is the possibility that jobs will be given to these people, but the numbers are so high.

I do not know how to express their demoralization when they come to my constituency office and talk about the fact that they have been unemployed for three years. Again they are not receiving unemployment insurance, their savings are being used up now and they have to apply for welfare or family benefits. I do not know what kind of answer I can give them beyond citing the irresponsible approach of both the federal and provincial governments to the fact that something really serious is affecting our citizens in Ontario.

**4:40 p.m.**

Whenever the NDP suggests new programs or ideas, they are cruelly rejected because they are not workable or because millions of dollars are required to implement them. I think this approach is becoming intolerable. I do not think citizens across the province, in particular unemployed people, can live on a sense of hope that some day things will get better and they will find jobs in the near future.

In that respect, the speech from the throne was vague. It was vague because there will be a federal election—I do not know when; maybe some time this year—and the provincial government is trying to keep a low profile while thousands of people across Ontario are feeling the pinch of the economic crisis that has been affecting this province for so many years.

On page 3 of the speech from the throne it says: "In my address last year, I indicated there were signs the economy was beginning to emerge from recession. Indeed, it is now evident Ontario led the Canadian recovery in 1983. For instance, manufacturing shipments rose by 10.7 per cent compared with 7.0 per cent across the rest of Canada. Similarly, retail sales expanded by 9.6 per cent in Ontario versus 6.6 per cent in the rest of the country, and most encouraging was the 5.2 per cent increase in employment since December 1982."

I want to comment on that paragraph. What kind of assurance can I give to people in my riding who work in the construction industry and cannot find employment? Let me tell the members frankly that I am speaking with emotion on this topic. I have seen people in my area who have been unemployed since the recession started in 1981. They are still unemployed and are going around searching for jobs. They cannot find jobs and their savings are now diminishing so fast that they are concerned about having to apply for welfare and family benefits.

I do not think that statement can be implemented for people in my riding who had been employed by the construction industry and who cannot find employment even today, after three or four years of crisis. This recovery aspect can be used by politicians to assure the rest of the country and the rest of the province that things will get better. On the street, we are faced with a completely different situation. People cannot find jobs, and something must be done.

Reading from page 5 of the speech from the throne: "We should be encouraged that Ontario made a leading contribution to employment recovery last year. Furthermore, employment expansion will continue. However, while the unemployment rate has declined sharply, it remains too high and will stay too high without a fresh commitment to serve the nationwide employment goals we enjoyed in the past."

Again, there is an inference that something is going to take place, but nothing has been concretized. If the government is really serious about the people who have suffered the pinch of the recession from 1980 and 1981 to 1983, and if in 1984 it is talking about recovery, the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) in the next budget will institute programs to give high priority to the people who have been unemployed for at least three or four years. They have used up their savings and do not know what to do about it now, except welfare or family benefits are options that should be explored by them. They will not see the future



with full employment or employment opportunities at least for another two or three years. I do not know when the recovery stage will be over.

I hope the government and the Treasurer will take into consideration the creation of new programs just for these people so they will have high priority in any kind of job creation program enunciated in the budget speech. They should have high priority because they have not received benefits from unemployment insurance or other sources except their savings.

It is unfortunate the Treasurer is not here, but I would like to have this type of insurance for these particular people. They do not have any more money in the bank, and they will have to use the public Treasury, either welfare or family benefits.

I do not want to tackle the issue of youth. We have heard that issue raised several times in the Legislature. It appears the government is concerned about the problem, but we do not as yet have concrete guidelines. A new program will be implemented to solve the youth unemployment situation.

The government might defend its past record of creating jobs for youth. It might talk about the winter or summer Experience programs. Again, this type of short-term employment will not give any assurance to a youth living in Dovercourt when he does not have the money to pay his tuition fees or to pursue his education because his parents have been without a job for three years and are not collecting any money from unemployment insurance and whose savings are gone.

I remember in the middle of the recession I placed a question on the order paper asking about the status of students across Ontario receiving help from the summer program of 1981-82. I was writing letters to different ministries to make sure students from my area would be hired. When the summer was over, I went back to the same students and found that not one was hired by the different ministries.

I placed a question on the order paper to find out the total number of students hired by the different ministries and which ridings they represented. The reply I got was that the statistical data were not available. I have to assume, and I do not want to say it, that a lot of students who are living in areas or ridings represented by Tories have high priority in the Experience program, which is enunciated by the government on a yearly basis.

Dovercourt was supposed to be taken into consideration because the majority of people are working in the construction industry. The con-

struction industry in 1981, 1982 and 1983 was in crisis. I do not think my people really received the kind of help from the government they were supposed to get, particularly students and youth.

4:50 p.m.

Again, I want to convey my frustration and my sense of concern to the Treasurer, who will be introducing his budget at the end of this month. Something must be done for the people in need. I hope my comments will be picked up by some ministers who will do something about it.

Mentioned on page 8 of the speech from the throne is the vague program which will "improve access for young people and women to the benefits of economic growth and challenging work."

Even today the recovery aspect of our province, and of the country as a whole, is in dispute. Some ministers have been talking about real recovery. Others have been quite reluctant to state that the recovery procedure has not taken place, apart from the use of statistics to assure the citizens of this province.

This kind of youth program leaves me in limbo. This problem affected youth for so many years, but the government did nothing about it during the recession. I do not know what kind of hope I should have now that the new program, whatever it is going to be, will be useful and will solve the problem for youth in Ontario.

Again, we have been living on promises. These promises have been around now for so many years but I think the people, until the government understands the real reasons some day, will get tired of this frustrating process.

If one wants to use numbers, the speech from the throne does that very well. It says on page 9:

"We should appreciate, however, that the economy created 49,000 new jobs for our young people during the past year and that a strong economy will make the greatest contribution to expanding genuine employment. That is our overriding responsibility. In addition, we can and will increase our direct support to help provide employment for young people."

They are nice words, nice promises, but the majority of the members of this House have been faced in their own constituency offices with the frustrating process of young people unable to support themselves because they are looking for jobs. Job opportunities have been completely reduced across Ontario.

On page 20, there is a paragraph that says the government will introduce reforms to the Workers' Compensation Board. I will get into more details on that situation. I hope the Minister



of Labour will take a close look at the problems of injured workers and will take into consideration the proposals made by the Union of Injured Workers and by other organizations representing injured workers across Ontario.

If the government talks about reform, it has to talk about real reform. It has to make sure the people affected by the reform will accept its principle and its content as well. I was not happy with the content of the speech from the throne. It gives us a lot of promises and hope, but we have heard so many throne speeches in the past. In 1984, we are still faced with the sense of hope and promises that things will get better.

This government says it is fully committed to taking into consideration the problems that are raised in the House on a daily basis. The third party for the last two years has been raising, in particular, the issue of the special need to develop our manufacturing industries in Canada so that Canadian resources will be utilized for the benefit of workers in Ontario.

Many times, in 1981 and again today, we have raised the issues of tighter controls so that no plants shut down, and a shorter work week. What was the response of the government? "The New Democratic Party program cannot be implemented." When the election is called, I am sure the government will make promises to take into consideration recommendations our party has made in the past three or four years so as to defuse issues in the course of the election. I do not think this is a fair game when thousands of citizens are deeply affected by programs that must be implemented and new laws that must be introduced by this government.

We have been talking about policies that are crucial to our young workers entering the work force. There is nothing more demoralizing than being educated and trained to work, then facing a future without work or working part-time at minimum wage jobs that do not use one's potential.

Federally, we have been faced with the same reaction and the same position as has been taken by the provincial government. The Liberal's job creation program dooms 10 per cent of the work force to be unemployed for the next decade. The NDP's policies at least outline a clear job creation program that can give hope to our young and unemployed workers. That is what the government must do. I will go into the principle of this program later on in the course of my speech.

We have been talking about the importance of and stressing the need for a solution to the

problems of women. Our bills in the Legislature for equal pay for work of equal value and for affirmative action are in the forefront of the fight for women's equality. What is the response of this government? "We are trying to achieve this goal. There is no need for concrete legislation. We are trying to get employers into this specific program without any compulsory action being provided by the law. It should come as a result of their own goodwill. There is no need to make sure employers across Ontario will comply with the law."

**5 p.m.**

We are here as politicians, and the government is here to introduce and enact legislation. Why is the government so reluctant to introduce this legislation? Talking about equalities and equal opportunities for everybody, I remember the slogan of the Conservative government in 1971 and 1974, saying this is the province of equal opportunity for everybody. Let us make sure equal opportunities will be concretized into statutes and into law. This is our role as politicians, and that is why the people elect a party to lead this province: to make sure the right law will be introduced in this Legislature.

There is widespread concern about and acceptance of the equality of women in the work force. Here again we are faced with another promise from the Conservative government that some day we are going to reach that stage but there is no need for a law to make sure this principle will be entrenched in legislation.

We as a party have been talking about a fair tax system that would raise all taxes from a progressive income tax and would rid us of regressive taxes such as property taxes. Again I would like to make particular reference to Dovercourt. Workers had been laid off because the construction industry was in crisis in 1981-82 and some of the plants were leaving Ontario and going back to the United States. Two years later, in 1983, the property taxes of a lot of people in Dovercourt were reassessed.

I found some material that is very disturbing, and I regret that the Minister of Revenue (Mr. Gregory) is not here to listen to my remarks. Mr. Speaker, I know you are listening very patiently and I am sure you will convey my concern to the Minister of Revenue, to the Treasurer and to other ministers who are supposed to take action on the different issues I am going to talk about today. I am sure the issue of property taxes affects all ridings, but I think Dovercourt has been unique in relation to the principle of reassessment.



Let me tell members why. The situation in ward 3 is the same as that in ward 4—these two wards are located in the riding of Dovercourt—except that Italians were a major group and Portuguese a minor one. Of 708 residential reassessments, approximately 359 were Italians, identified by name, and I have the names here. This represents more than 50 per cent of all reassessments in the ward, although according to the 1981 census it was only 28.1 per cent of the ward because the census tract boundaries do not correspond exactly.

The corresponding figures for Portuguese are 158 of 708, 22.3 per cent reassessed. Sixteen per cent of the ward is Portuguese by mother tongue.

The figures for the heaviest Italian area in the ward, north of St. Clair, are the most dramatic. More than 75 per cent of all homes reassessed were owned by Italians, although they account for fewer than half the households.

I am bringing up the issue of reassessment because at a time when we are faced with an economic crisis in Ontario and when the majority of the people in Dovercourt—Italian, Portuguese or people belonging to other ethnic groups—were unemployed and could not find employment, and at the time when their benefits eventually expired because their contributions had run out and they were living on their savings, here we had the great hero of this government, the Minister of Revenue, going into ward 3 and ward 4 and reassessing properties. In most cases the reassessment was double the amount it used to be. People were calling my office to complain and asking what they were supposed to do. Of course, within the limits and guidelines of the law, people can appeal.

I think the Minister of Revenue misread the economic situation people were in. Rather than moving into specific ridings and doubling property tax assessments, he should have used a humanitarian approach, at least for the time being. He should not have further penalized people who were already unemployed as a result of the recession in 1981.

I hope the minister will take note of my comments. Even today people are calling my office saying their property taxes have been doubled and they want to know why. They are looking for an explanation. We know why they doubled. The province is moving to reform property taxes, keeping in mind that market value assessment must be in place. Rather than moving into it all at once, the minister has been selecting certain areas. Dovercourt was chosen at a time when people there had lost their jobs. A

year and a half later, because the recession persisted, they could not get unemployment insurance benefits any more.

I think it is unfair. We have raised this issue in the past. However, I do not think the Minister of Revenue took into consideration the concerns raised by different members when they were trying to voice the people's concern on the floor of this Legislature.

I must mention an important issue affecting injured workers across the province that has to do with a law introduced by the federal government in the 1983 budget. I am sure members know that until that time injured workers receiving injury benefits from the board were not supposed to declare these as income on their tax forms. As a result of the 1983 federal budget, workers receiving pensions from the Workers' Compensation Board must now declare these as income.

**5:10 p.m.**

When the board appeared before the standing committee on resources development, for a moment I thought I might be wrong. I had the clear impression the Minister of Labour and the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board would have made a presentation to the federal government to make sure injured workers would not be further penalized by having to declare their pensions in their income tax returns.

We know injured workers who are receiving injured workers' benefits are already losing 25 per cent of the benefits, again taking into consideration the ceiling, which is not the same as the one they had at the time they were working, as members are well aware.

If one considers the injured worker per se, he has been bombarded with reactionary laws and positions from the federal government and now by the provincial government, which is using the excuse that it is time for this province to reshape the Workers' Compensation Board.

The government, as a result of the recommendations of a majority of committee members, is not willing to eliminate the ceiling for injured workers. They are recommending less than Professor Weiler had recommended. They are recommending an increase to 175 per cent of the average industrial wage in 1985, and, at five per cent increments for five years, up to 200 per cent of the average industrial wage. Professor Weiler recommended 250 per cent of the average industrial wage in 1981.

We are supposed to be talking about reform, but the government is going back and penalizing more injured workers at a time when reform is needed in Ontario.



Based on the recommendations of the resources development committee, the government also wants to eliminate indexing of existing pensions. A dual award system should be instituted for permanent disability, a lump sum to be paid according to the degree of impairment and continuing periodic payments to be made only when wages are actually lost.

Then in 1983 the federal government told injured workers in the province, "Your pension must be declared in your income tax, and you have to pay taxes because it is a part of income." I will never understand that criterion.

As I stated before, under the present system, injured workers are already losing 25 per cent at the time when they are receiving full benefits from the board up to the time when they are receiving temporary total benefits from the Workers' Compensation Board.

The move enunciated by the federal government was unfair, but more unfair has been the position taken by this province and in particular by the Minister of Labour and the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board, who should have gone to Ottawa to make a clear presentation pointing out that injured workers have been the losers in this province for many years. They should have tried to convince them it is not fair for injured workers to have to pay extra income tax as a result of a compensable injury.

The Minister of Labour was silent, as was the chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board, when I raised this issue. I invited the minister to do something about trying to convince the minister in charge at the federal level to change his mind.

Going back to the principle of our amendment to the motion and the refusal to provide lifetime indexed pensions for nonoccupational losses such as pain and suffering resulting from compensable injuries under workers' compensation, the majority report recommends we award injured workers across Ontario with a permanent disability award and that such pensions should be indexed and reviewed in relation to the principle of the clinical rating system.

The clinical rating system has been in place in Ontario since the introduction of the Workers' Compensation Act. It has been revised only a few times. I have the schedule in front of me, but I know sometimes figures do not mean much. For the amputation of a hand, the Workers' Compensation Board gives out a 50 per cent disability pension.

Interestingly enough, I had a case in which an injured worker had his fingers amputated and

reattached to his hand. As a result, he has really stiff fingers and cannot move them. He launched an appeal before the board. This man was supposed to be considered 50 per cent disabled and receive a pension on the basis of a 50 per cent disability award from the board because he could not use his hand. I have not received a reply yet, nor a decision in relation to the appeal that was launched.

However, I received a memo from the adjudicator who referred the case to senior medical officials employed by the board. One of the comments was this injured worker should consider himself lucky to have had his fingers attached to his hand even though the adjudicator recognizes there is a problem. He recommends the 35 per cent pension be reaffirmed rather than the 50 per cent pension for an injured worker who had his hand amputated.

We are dealing with this kind of clinical rating system. The system must be revised immediately. There are inefficiencies and loopholes involved. The clinical rating system is not taking into consideration the nature of the work the injured worker was performing before the injury. Therefore, if a worker loses a hand, he must be compensated for the loss of a hand. If he cannot perform the same kind of work, he can be trained or rehabilitated. The clinical rating system is not taking into consideration the work the injured worker was performing previously.

This issue has been raised many times in this Legislature by myself, my colleagues, other members, and by organizations representing injured workers. We heard comments from ministry officials and the WCB that the clinical rating system will be revised on the basis and in the light of studies currently under review in the United States.

**5:20 p.m.**

I do not understand the logic of that. In Ontario, we have physicians and specialists who are able to revise our clinical rating system within our own system. We should not expect to follow recommendations from the United States. The need for a revised clinical rating system through such principles has been supported by injured workers, in particular when pensions are granted to them as a result of permanent disability.

The dual award system that has been suggested by the majority of the members of the standing committee on resources development does not take into consideration the request made by injured workers that permanent pensions must be given. There is no reference that pain and suffering must be considered in the permanent



disability award. That principle was actually suggested by Professor Weiler. The government members ignored the suggestion.

In civil cases in the courts, if a person has a car accident or other damage to his or her body, pain and suffering is a principle incorporated in the total lump sum granted to the person, with a seven per cent discount. The board is suggesting and has been using the figure of two per cent when a lump sum is given to injured workers as a result of, for example, accident-related psychological problems. Why do we have to use two measures? Why have pain and suffering been ignored by the government members sitting on the committee when injured workers support that principle?

As a result of an accident, I lost a career opportunity. My family suffered pain and other suffering not strictly related to me as a person, but it was the cause of psychological problems for my family. Pain and suffering are something which must be recognized by the Workers' Compensation Board as being a result of compensable accidents.

Leaving aside for a moment an accident that is rated at five or two per cent, which some people through false information and impatience think is a minor accident, if we talk about serious accidents rated at about 50 per cent, or someone losing his or her life as a result of an accident, pain and suffering must be taken into consideration.

Professor Weiler referred to that factor, but the government is ignoring that reality even when a professor was appointed to study the whole concept of compensation. I hope the government in its wisdom, at the time the new law is introduced on the floor of this Legislature, will take into consideration the reports and recommendations made by umbrella organizations representing injured workers across the province and, in particular, the recent report drafted by members of my party who were in great disagreement with the government members sitting on the standing committee on resources development.

I said I would use some restraint in my speech. I can go on and talk more concretely about the programs that have been enunciated by the New Democratic Party in relation to early retirement. If I do not tackle that issue, my speech will be incomplete in some way.

**Mr. Nixon:** That is one hour and 25 minutes. It is all good, though.

**Mr. Lupusella:** Mr. Speaker, I am being encouraged to complete my speech, but I feel it is

urgent to state in the conclusion to my remarks that the early retirement plan suggested by the NDP is something that must be considered by the government if it wants to talk seriously about the unemployment crisis affecting citizens and workers across Ontario.

I would like to remind members that if a worker has been employed in the construction industry for 30 or 40 years, our proposal makes sense. He will retire earlier and give his place to somebody else who is younger, while he can get the benefit of early retirement. It makes sense to a lot of people and to a lot of workers living in the province.

I spoke about our proposal to workers in my riding and they feel it is time your colleagues in the Conservative Party, Mr. Speaker, raised this issue because the need is here with us. I refer, for example, to the construction worker whose spine is wrecked after 40 years of heavy work. He foresees the time when he can retire earlier. In Europe and in other countries the retirement age is 60. It is time we talked about the same thing in this province.

I want to leave some time available to other members who are eager to participate in the throne speech debate. They have good remarks to make as well, to represent their constituents properly. I will close my remarks by thanking members for paying so much attention to the contents of my speech.

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to express a few thoughts on the throne speech. The speech notes that Ontario led the Canadian economic recovery in 1983. A number of my colleagues have already detailed the specifics of our improved economic performance in 1983. Some of them have pointed to projections predicting that this country, and this province in particular, will experience strong, real economic growth in 1984.

**5:30 p.m.**

I tend to be a bit cautious when it comes to economic forecasts. I subscribe to the definition that an economist is an expert who can tell someone tomorrow why what he said would happen today did not happen. It has been said that if all economists were laid end to end, they would fail to reach a conclusion.

In spite of that scepticism, our current economic circumstances and position do provide grounds for optimism. This is not to say that problems do not exist which require attention both in the short and long term. No member of this House needs to be reminded once again of the social and economic costs of unemployment,



particularly youth unemployment. I was therefore pleased to read in the speech from the throne that the government will be expanding its youth employment program. I look for the 1984 budget to follow through on this commitment. Through that document, I am confident this government will introduce those measures necessary to address this problem effectively, and provide the young people of Ontario with the range of opportunity they expect and deserve.

I also have concern about the strength and durability of the recovery. In the post-war North American economy, cyclical recoveries such as the one we are now experiencing have lasted 34 months on the average. If this pattern holds, we could anticipate a downturn in the key economy, the American economy, in late 1985. That is not to say another recession is inevitable but simply that breaking that pattern will require forceful action on a number of fronts.

As a member of a provincial government, I find it somewhat frustrating that we are not the absolute masters of our economic destiny. The federal nature of our system of government, the constitutional division of power, the growing interdependence of international trade and monetary systems, all of these factors mean economic prospects are, to a degree, dictated and determined by policies and decisions made by actors in other jurisdictions.

For example, it is no news to any member that the economic momentum of the recovery is currently being sustained by export trade. This is true at both the national and provincial level. In the last quarter of 1983 our gross national product grew at an annual rate of 3.6 per cent, much of which was attributable to exports. In the final quarter there was a negative growth in domestic demand as final domestic demand fell by 0.2 per cent. Export growth in turn has been led by the very strong rebound of the Canadian auto industry. As we know, Ontario is the home base of 95 per cent of the Canadian industry.

In 1983 we established a record \$3.7 billion surplus in our auto trade with the United States. In January of this year Canada's monthly record trade surplus of \$2.1 billion was based on an 18 per cent increase in car shipments and an 11 per cent increase in auto parts.

While Canadian domestic demand for our auto products has strengthened considerably, we in this province have really benefited from a very strong American recovery and very strong American consumer demand. Any action on the part of the American administration or the Federal Reserve Bank which would reduce

demand would have very serious implications for our economy. Although we cannot set the American agenda, we are none the less very vulnerable to any developments in a market which last year absorbed 75 per cent of total Canadian exports and more than 80 per cent of total Ontario exports.

The relative loss of economic sovereignty caused by an interdependent international economic system is a fact of life which we must accept. Economic autarky is simply not an option open to either this province or this nation.

As I see it, our task in this House is to devise and implement those policies which would best enable us to take full advantage of the opportunities opened by interdependence, while at the same time minimizing the vulnerability of our domestic economy to the impact of negative developments in the international system.

This is a very complex task made all the more difficult by the fact that as a provincial Legislature we do not have available to us all the fiscal and monetary tools necessary to construct a comprehensive strategy. While it is a complex and difficult task, it is none the less a crucial task in any jurisdiction such as ours in which foreign trade makes such a significant contribution to our economic wellbeing.

As members know, exports, directly and indirectly, support one million jobs in our economy and generate on the average more than 30 per cent of our gross provincial product. In the future, increasing our share of world trade, capturing new markets and carving niches for Canadian expertise and new Canadian products will play a vital part in our efforts to create new jobs and generate more wealth for our people. We must pursue those goals in an international system which is murderously competitive and which is undergoing significant structural change.

Both of these features are linked to the rise of new producers in the newly industrialized countries. These producers have moved into the old-line, mass-production industries and technologies where lower wage costs and cheaper resources give them a competitive advantage over their more developed competitors.

Nor have our resource industries been immune to the negative impact of significant changes in the international marketplace. Over the last few years our mining and forest product companies have been under a state of siege. Their corporate strategies have been designed to achieve not growth but survival. Plagued by reduced demand and low prices, our resource sector also had to



contend with the emergence of new producers and competitors in such areas as Africa, the Pacific Rim and South America.

Many of these producers, who enjoy the advantage of cheap labour, for political reasons and out of a desperate need to obtain foreign currencies, were and remain quite prepared to sell their products at prices so low they bear only a passing resemblance to market value.

The solution to this problem lies not in the totally unacceptable approach of asking our miners and smelter workers to work for wages comparable to those of their Brazilian, Angolan or Korean counterparts, but in making our resource industries more competitive by making them more efficient.

**5:40 p.m.**

To that end, I was heartened by the announcement that four of our major mining companies—Falconbridge, Inco, Kidd Creek and Noranda—had joined together to form the HDRK Mining Research Co.

Partly in response to these structural changes in the international system, the developed western economies, such as Japan, France and, to a degree, Canada, have begun to concentrate on the export growth field in which they enjoy a comparative advantage, namely, knowledge-intensive industries.

If we in Ontario are to hold and expand our market share in our existing markets and exploit new export opportunities in areas such as the Pacific Rim, we must do two things.

First, we must help our industries achieve the level of productivity needed to ensure that Ontario products remain competitive in foreign markets and that the jobs and wages of Ontario workers are protected.

It must be stressed that to minimize the effect of negative international economic developments on our domestic economy, we must strive to the greatest degree possible to make our industries recession-resistant. By this I mean that even during periods of reduced demand, Ontario products, be they natural resources or manufactured goods, must be sufficiently competitive in price and quality to remain attractive to both the foreign buyer and the domestic consumer.

Second, for the purposes of exploiting new export opportunities, reducing technological dependence and technological lag, and assisting our industries to maintain their competitive position, it is imperative that we encourage the future development and growth of Ontario's high-technology sector.

I will take a few moments to discuss the ways in which the measures outlined in the speech from the throne will help us to carry out those two tasks by encouraging the development of knowledge-intensive industries in Ontario and by helping our industrial and manufacturing plant meet the challenge of economic transformation.

It has become a commonplace that Canada devotes less of its gross national product to research and development than do most other members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Preliminary estimates from Statistics Canada for 1983 indicate that last year we channelled between 1.3 and 1.4 per cent of our gross national product into research and development. This is still well below the average of more than two per cent of gross national product spent on research and development by countries such as the United States, Japan and West Germany.

There are structural reasons that at least partially account for our low level of research and development activities. We are a small economy with a small domestic market; our plant and firm size is much smaller on the average than, say, that of the United States, and it is a matter of fact that smaller plants and firms devote fewer resources to research and development.

As well, our industrial and manufacturing base is composed of a large number of branch plants of foreign corporations. These corporations concentrate their research and development activities offshore, often at their head-office locations.

Finally, we in this country do not devote as much of our resources to military-linked research as do some of our OECD partners.

These structural factors account at least in part for our research and development performance. It was to help overcome the obstacles to improved research and development effort caused by these structural factors that the national and provincial governments launched their research and development programs.

On the whole, government programs in this country have been designed, as was noted in the 1983 Ontario budget paper, R and D and Economic Development in Ontario, to achieve the complementary goals of correcting market research and development allocations, encouraging knowledge-intensive economic development and ensuring the availability of highly qualified manpower.

Ontario, which accounts for 50 per cent of Canada's research and development activity, has, through programs such as the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development, the



Innovation Development for Employment Advancement Corp. and the technology centres, made a genuine effort to encourage research and development and to facilitate technology diffusion in our economy.

**Mr. Haggerty:** We can thank the government in Ottawa.

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** And the province as well.

The throne speech made it clear that this effort will be continued as this government moves to expand its training and retraining programs and to assist firms to acquire appropriate, best-available technologies.

I do not question this government's commitment to the development of an innovative economy. I fully agree with the Treasurer, who in his remarks at Tech Expo 1984 in Cambridge said, "The time has come to take a major step forward into the knowledge-intensive environment that marks the advanced industrial era." That is certainly a step we must take if we are to achieve economic growth, generate jobs and raise our standard of living in the future.

I believe the programs outlined in the throne speech and the ideas discussed in the recently released budget paper, Economic Transformation, Technological Innovation and Diffusion in Ontario, are sound. I made many similar suggestions in the throne speech debate last year. However, I feel there is more we could and should do in this area.

Last year I argued that on the grounds of economic common sense alone, this province and this nation could not afford the luxury of duplication and redundancy in programs to foster knowledge-intensive economic development, nor in its research and development efforts.

This year, faced with the proliferation of programs, policies and technological centres, the need for co-ordination is greater than ever. For example, the federal government recently announced the creation of the Canadian Microelectronics Corp. in Kingston, not too distant from our own microelectronics centre in Ottawa.

The federal government has plans under way for establishing a substantial advanced manufacturing centre in Winnipeg. We have our advanced manufacturing centre composed of two parts, the computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacturing centre in Cambridge and the robotics centre in Peterborough.

It would be a sad waste of time, effort and resources if each of these centres were duplicating each other's efforts. Certainly opportunities exist for joint ventures and these opportunities must be explored. We are too small a country

with too small an economy to afford costly duplication.

**5:50 p.m.**

I was encouraged to read recently that the Treasurer shares my views on the need to co-ordinate federal and provincial programs. I refer to an article written by the Treasurer and published in the winter 1983 edition of the *Business Quarterly*. In it, the Treasurer notes that present policies are largely unco-ordinated and as a result we run the danger in Canada of spreading our limited resources too thin. I would argue that there is not only a need to co-ordinate programs between the provincial and national governments but also a very real need to co-ordinate programs at the provincial level.

I must express my very real disappointment that the government did not move to establish a ministry of science and technology. I want to make it clear that my disappointment does not imply any criticism of those ministries and agencies that are currently severally responsible for the administration of research and development and technology programs. Rather, my disappointment reflects my belief that helping the people of this province cope with and profit from the economic and industrial transformation we are experiencing is a priority matter.

The contribution which knowledge-intensive and high-technology industries can make to assuring a prosperous future for the people of Ontario justifies a ministry with an exclusive mandate to devise, implement and administer those policies which would facilitate and expedite the economic transformation.

As I have suggested on other occasions, such a ministry could co-ordinate policies and programs at the intergovernmental and intragovernmental levels. The ministry could develop the long-term integrated, comprehensive strategies we will need to progress and prosper in the post-industrial world.

I have argued the case for the creation of a ministry of science and technology both in this House and privately with my friends and colleagues. Although I have not been successful thus far, the case is not yet closed as far as I am concerned. I will continue my efforts to convince the government to establish such a ministry.

While I was disappointed to find the government will not be establishing a ministry of science and technology at this time, I was pleased by the throne speech commitment to simplify venture capital and to help smaller companies acquire high-technology equipment.



As has often been pointed out in this House, the small-business sector is the most dynamic and innovative economic actor in our society. It is also the sector that creates the greatest number of new jobs for the people of Ontario and Canada. Small business creates jobs at twice the rate of large firms. Between the years 1975 to 1982, small companies less than two years old created no less than 18.5 per cent of all new jobs in our economy.

Assisting this sector would be a cost-effective method of stimulating employment and employment growth in our economy. Both of these measures should help eliminate some of the impediments to the transfer of the best-practised technologies to our small and medium-sized firms and reduce technological lag, which inhibits growth.

While on the topic of facilitating technological transfer, I was interested to read the suggestion that one of the best methods of achieving that goal is to provide for greater access to and use of patent information. I would hope the Ministry of Industry and Trade would pursue that idea, if it has not already done so.

I would also hope that at some time in the near future the government would see fit to establish a technology development, co-ordination and transfer centre associated with the National Research Council. As I have already pointed out, the NRC is prepared not only to make a site available for a distinctive provincial centre on its large Montreal Road campus in Ottawa but also to co-operate with such a centre in every way.

Since I presented the arguments in favour of such a centre in an earlier address to this House, I will not burden the members at this time with a review. I remain firm in my opinion that by not establishing a provincial centre linked with the National Research Council we are missing a tremendous opportunity to avail ourselves of the work, products and expertise of a world-class research organization.

The NRC has developed a network of connections with industry, universities and other research institutions, both in Canada and internationally. It has a broad and comprehensive knowledge of research and development activities around the globe.

A formal link with the council would give us a window on the international scene on high technology at very modest cost. Given the magnitude of the task before us, I am convinced this is an opportunity we cannot afford to ignore.

Finally, I believe it is essential that we take immediate measures to strengthen and broaden the research connection between our industrial and business communities and our universities. We must make business more aware of the tremendous research potential in our universities and the universities more aware of the research needs of business.

Both business and universities have expressed an interest in developing a closer working relationship. Now would appear to be an opportune moment for us to put into place a policy framework within which that relationship could develop.

The government through the throne speech gave notice that the commitment of resources to the construction and expansion of facilities in higher education would be related to those programs that best serve the interests of the province. The throne speech points to the University of Waterloo's Institute of Computer Research as being typical of the type of program the government has in mind. Using that as a guide, I urge the government to fund and support exchange and fellowship programs between business and universities and to establish special scholarship and aid programs in disciplines of special importance to the province.

The throne speech speaks of an economic and industrial transformation, of changes that present us in Ontario with a set of economic, social and technological challenges that will dominate our public policy agenda for many years to come. I have focused on how we might best meet the technological challenge facing us today. The policies and programs which would permit us to guarantee that change in this province will be change for the better.

**The Deputy Speaker:** I wonder if I might point out to the member that it being six of the clock, this might be an appropriate time to stop.

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** It will take me about three minutes to conclude after the dinner hour.

The House recessed at 6 p.m.

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No. 14

# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Thursday, April 5, 1984

Evening Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Thursday, April 5, 1984

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

## THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** Mr. Speaker, when we adjourned for the supper recess—I guess some call it dinner—I was dealing with the fact the government has given notice through the throne speech that the commitment of resources to the construction and expansion of facilities in higher education will be related to the programs that best serve the interests of the province. I pointed to the program at Waterloo, the Institute of Computer Research, as being indicative of the type of program the government has in mind.

I urged the government to fund and support exchange and fellowship programs between business and universities, and to establish special scholarships and aid programs in disciplines of special importance to the province. Since these programs operate to the benefit of not only the province but also the universities and the business community, I can see no reason we cannot expect their full co-operation, participation and possibly even some financial assistance, particularly from business.

The throne speech spoke of an economic and industrial transformation, of changes that present us in Ontario with a set of economic, social and technological challenges that will dominate our public policy agenda for many years to come.

I focused on how we might best meet the technological challenge facing us today, and on the policies and programs that would permit us to guarantee that change in this province will be change for the better.

**Mr. Conway:** Come on; turn it up and turn it on.

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** I am about to; just wait.

The policies and programs of this government will help foster the development of the knowledge-intensive industries that I am convinced will play a central role in determining whether the remainder of this century will be a period of growth or decline for this province.

I have attempted to indicate those areas in which I believe our efforts might be expanded or consolidated. I have advanced these suggestions in the belief that their adoption would help us to respond more effectively and quickly to the forces of change which are reshaping our world.

The people of this province have never been afraid of change and have always had the intelligence, imagination and courage to exploit the new opportunities which change brings. I have every confidence they will continue to do so in the future.

**Mr. Conway:** Now I feel better. That is for the record.

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** I was not in the House last Monday afternoon. I had an opportunity on Tuesday morning to read the Instant Hansard and in it I found that a member of the opposition suffered from some sort of complex. I am not a physician so I am in no position to diagnose the exact nature of the complex, but in any event it gave some credence to the maxim, "There is no law which can prevent a man from making a fool of himself."

The member for Prescott-Russell (Mr. Boudria) and I represent adjoining constituencies. We were both elected in the election of 1981. Shortly following that election, I had an opportunity to discuss matters with the member and in the course of that discussion suggested that when problems affected a number of communities, where the boundary between our respective constituencies literally went through the middle of the community, maybe we should work together to sort things out.

Unfortunately, that never really came about. As it turns out, I find in my constituency office approximately 10 per cent of the calls come from the adjacent constituency. Contrary to what was suggested, if I have been in that constituency five times since the election, that would be an exaggeration; it is certainly fewer than five.

**Mr. Conway:** Some people down there remember the member as a Liberal.

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** Those were in the bad days. The best missionary the Conservatives ever had was a gentleman by the name of Trudeau.

In any event, I find myself in the situation where a considerable number of municipalities



with school boards having jurisdiction in a portion of Prescott-Russell frequently have occasion to consult me about their problems. They seem to have some peculiar reluctance about consulting the member for Prescott-Russell. I do not know why, but I can guess.

**8:10 p.m.**

I am sorry the member is not here tonight. I could go on at considerable length, but I will not really dignify the hour-long remarks made the other day with a response. I tried to put things in perspective from the point of view of our adjacent ridings and the friendly relationship that should exist between them but really does not, and this disturbs me.

What also particularly disturbed me in all of this was a need for a school in a community that is very much a part of my constituency. When letters to the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) over the hand of that particular member appear in a weekly bulletin published in the community, it really strikes me, having had some experience in public life at another level, as being the wrong way to go about things.

There is an old saying that a kicked dog does not hunt.

**Mr. Conway:** What? A kicked dog does not hunt?

**Mr. MacQuarrie:** Right. Consequently, I think letters of that nature are not really appropriate to be published at approximately the same time or within a short time of their having been sent to the ministry. I indicated this in a letter I wrote, to which the member referred at some length, and I am still firmly convinced my position on the matter was correct. I think the letter I wrote was an excellent letter in every respect; I make no apologies whatsoever for it.

That concludes everything I have to say.

**Mr. McKessock:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to reply to the throne speech. I must say I was very disappointed to find there was very little in the speech to encourage our Ontario farmers, who are currently at a very low ebb.

The speech talked about getting an advisory body to advise the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell). Surely it is not more advice the minister needs, it is action. The farmers and farm organizations have been giving the minister lots of good advice over the last couple of years, but I guess he has not been listening or does not understand; maybe a little of both.

The Ontario farmer is being squeezed far more than any other farmer in Canada and, in fact, in the greater part of the world. I consider Ontario

farmers to be the best in the world as far as their efficiency and use of modern technology is concerned. This has not helped them to receive financial benefits. Their efficiency is such that they can compete with all other farmers throughout the world, but they cannot compete against the treasuries of governments of other provinces in Canada and other countries of the world.

I am not in favour of subsidies but if this is the game the other provinces and other countries are going to play, then we must join in or lose our Ontario agriculture at the expense of Ontario farmers, at the expense of losing jobs—because one out of every five in Ontario is related to agriculture—and also at the expense of the consumer, who may get cheaper imports for a while, but wait until we lose our industry and we are at the mercy of other provinces or countries for our food, Mr. Speaker, and watch the price rise.

We must not forget that some countries in the world spend 40 to 50 per cent of their income on food; in Canada it is somewhere between 16 and 18 per cent. If this government does not give our farmers the same protection now as other governments in other provinces and other countries are giving their farmers, it will be to our peril.

Farm bankruptcies in Ontario have outstripped those in all other provinces in the last two years. The beginning farmer assistance program covers only farmers who started since January 1, 1983. What about the young farmers who started in 1980, 1981 and 1982? The Ontario farm adjustment assistance program covers only those with less than 60 per cent equity. If the business is losing money, what does "equity" mean? Equity in one's farm is the factory; he cannot get it unless he sells his farm. If he sells his factory, he is out of business.

All farmers in Ontario need assistance such as all farmers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Quebec and Alberta are getting. All farmers in the United States are getting assistance. The US government last year paid its farmers \$19 billion in assistance. That amount equalled the US farmers' net income. In other words, their net income was provided by the government. Who provides Ontario farmers with money to compete? Nobody, and they are going down fast.

If the farmer has to borrow money to live on each year, he is not going to last too long. The minister says he cannot give the Ontario beef and hog farmers assistance because it would jeopardize the proposed tripartite stabilization program. Why would it jeopardize the tripartite



stabilization program if Ontario gave assistance to its farmers when Manitoba and Saskatchewan, who are supposed to be joining the plan, are subsidizing their red meat producers? Can the minister not see other provinces have us at a disadvantage? As long as they have us at a disadvantage, they will be in no hurry to move in on a tripartite stabilization plan.

Of course, we have surpluses. This is our problem. Some producers will have to liquidate. But why should the bulk of them be in Ontario? We would not mind losing our share of farmers but Ontario is losing Canada's share, because Ontario farmers are not getting the support other provinces get. If the minister would move to support the red meat industry in Ontario and put our farmers on an equal footing with the farmers in other provinces, he would find the tripartite stabilization program would move much faster because it would then be to every government's advantage.

It is to the advantage of only the Ontario government to move on the tripartite stabilization program now, because it is the only province where farmers are bleeding badly. Let us wake up and protect ourselves while we have something left to protect. The farmers in the European Economic Community are producing their heads off and getting paid handsomely for doing it. Maybe you noticed, Mr. Speaker, on the Journal last week there were interviews with British and French farmers. One cash crop farmer in Britain who farmed 3,000 acres netted half a million dollars last year. He said it was crazy, he did not need that kind of money, but then he asked, "Why should I complain if the government wants to pay it?"

In France, the poundage of butter in storage equals the weight of all the people in France. The minister and others will tell us the European common market is going broke. Quebec is going broke. The US is going broke, and it will have to cut back, and is cutting back, on its highly subsidized farm payments. It is true it is cutting back on subsidizing farmers.

Now the Ontario farmer is caught again. The farmers in other provinces and countries have been treated so well they have their farm operations in good shape. They have their buildings in good repair and their machinery is up to date. Quebec gave up to \$40,000 to farmers in a grant to build new feedlots over the last several years. That is only one example. Farmers in other provinces and countries are now in a position to carry on if their subsidization is reduced. Ontario farmers never had the help.

It may have been a bit of a burden on governments but it saved their agricultural industry at the expense of their taxpayers; and at the expense of Ontario farmers who are now going out of business to leave room for the surpluses from other provinces and countries. The Minister of Agriculture and Food is going to have to take immediate steps to save as much of the agricultural industry in Ontario as he can. We must get back to some of the good stabilization programs we used to have. I will give the members some examples.

1. A 25-year, long-term mortgage loan at eight per cent.

2. A capital grants program where there is a grant of up to 40 per cent of capital costs with a maximum limit. An up-to-date limit could be \$20,000.

3. Tile drainage loans covering 75 per cent of the cost at eight per cent interest.

4. Subsidization on lime, which allows acid soils to make better use of fertilizers.

5. A revised crop insurance that will not penalize a farmer who has a good field by cancelling out another poor field two miles down the road.

6. Having Ontario Hydro pay, instead of making the farmers pay, for the filters needed to correct the system which causes tingle voltage, instead of making the farmers pay.

7. Changing the young farmers' program to assist young farmers who have started farming since January 1980, instead of just those who have started since January 1983.

**8:20 p.m.**

These are only a few things that could go a long way towards stabilizing the farming industry. A lot of my suggestions have been tried and have worked in the years gone by. Why, when we get something working, do we try to fix it? Let us go back and pick up some of those good programs to help stabilize our industry in the years to come. They have done it in the years gone by and they can do it again.

While the minister is implementing the suggestions I just made, he should also make a payout to the red meat sector for shipments made during 1983. This payout must be done now because we have let the situation become too serious for long-term policies only.

I never mentioned preserving agricultural land. When we are in the midst of surplus production, it seems less important to mention the preservation of farm land, but it is important for at least two reasons that come to mind.



First, it is important because only about five per cent of our land in Ontario is good for agriculture. Agriculture should not be allowed to decrease in size in Ontario. It is too important an industry to our small towns and villages and to the province as a whole. As I mentioned before, one out of five jobs in Ontario is related to agriculture. Our Canadian exports are largely agricultural products.

There is one other reason we should preserve our good farm land. If industry was not allowed to build on good farm land near the large cities, it would be pushed back into the small towns and villages of Ontario. Even though agriculture is very important to our rural towns and villages, they could also use some other industry to help maintain a good life and hold our children in our own communities after they leave school. As long as we allow industry to build on choice farm land near the cities, our chances of getting more industry will decrease.

We are fortunate in Grey riding. Although we are predominantly rural, with 26 municipalities, 13 townships and 13 small towns and villages, we have great diversity.

Agriculture is diversified in itself, with dairy, beef, hogs, chickens, turkeys, sheep, apples and other fruit, honey and maple syrup. These all play an important part.

Our tourism industry continues to grow with many establishments such as Blue Mountain Resorts in Collingwood and Talisman Resort in Beaver Valley. They provide excellent skiing in the winter and their swimming pools and slide rides provide year-round recreation and relaxation.

Most of our towns and villages are supplying some other industry to help hold up our employment situation and keep our children at home. The recent closings of the Knechtel Furniture Ltd. factory in Hanover and the Canada Packers Inc. ice cream plant in Harriston were a blow to these communities. For these reasons, we need to encourage industry to our area. But as I have mentioned before, that is hard to do as long as we let industry build on our choice farm land near the large cities.

I also feel we should have an Ontario Development Corp. representative in our area to take care of applications for assistance to industry and tourism. At present interested applicants must go to Kitchener. I have talked about the possibility of having an ODC rep in our area for several years now. The minister tells me there are enough ODC tourism applications in our area for half a man and enough ODC

industrial applications for half a man. The minister feels separate men should handle these two different areas of business. I feel one man could easily do both jobs because business is business whether it is tourism or industrial. Applications for ODC assistance cannot be that much different.

There are some programs available for our area through the ODC for tourism and industry. The best program is probably the availability of interest-free loans for a portion of one's capital startup costs or expansion.

There has been an industry representative for industry and trade in our area for some years, but he was never given the power to handle ODC applications. Unfortunately, the government does not seem to understand one man can handle more than one job. I have different kinds of work on the farm. If I had to hire one man for each job, I would be as far in debt as the government is. The government could very well have an ODC man in our area who could spend half his time on tourism and half his time on industry.

I have just covered a couple of things I feel are very important. I hope in the budget speech in a few weeks we will get more encouragement than we have had from the speech from the throne.

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, the speech from the throne was a speech women could call a nonspeech. In the speech from the throne the government boasts of its "determination to advance the just interests and rights of women in our programs generally and in the community at large." Where are the specific measures to implement this determination, or is rhetoric the main ingredient of the speech from the throne?

The speech categorically rejects equal pay for work of equal value and mandatory affirmative action, both of which are essential to advance the just interests and rights of women. Almost 95 per cent of the groups appearing before the resources development committee in January 1984 on the subject of Bill 141, which amended the Employment Standards Act regarding equal pay, agreed that the amendments in Bill 141 did not guarantee equal pay for work of equal value.

The speech promises no change in the bill's ineffective amendments to the equal pay section of the Employment Standards Act. The government still seems to think that 245 voluntary affirmative action programs in the whole province represent progress towards affirmative action when there are about 53,000 firms in Ontario with 20 or more employees still without such programs.



In fact, all the government proposes in the speech is to give leadership to crown agencies, municipalities and school boards in setting up effective affirmative action programs.

**Mr. Stokes:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: Would you ask the member for Beaches-Woodbine (Ms. Bryden) to stop interrupting that conversation over there?

**Ms. Bryden:** Thank you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Good point.

**Ms. Bryden:** The government's own record on affirmative action in the public service is not very impressive since women make only 76 per cent of what men make in the public service. What sort of role model will the government be for other parts of the public sector? At present only 29 per cent of the administrative jobs in the public service are held by women despite the fact that women make up 42 per cent of the public service.

**8:30 p.m.**

Without mandatory affirmative action, how is the government going to persuade Hydro, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, all the municipalities and school boards throughout the province to bring in affirmative action programs?

At the present time only 18 out of 62 school boards have such programs. The liquor control board figures are very shocking. Only three per cent of the women are employed in management, while 36 per cent of the men are employed in management. Of the permanent employees of the liquor board, about five per cent are women; it is somewhat better among part-time employees—about 45 per cent—but they tend to end up with the low-paying jobs even among part-timers.

What sort of role model is the government going to give to these government agencies, which for so these many years have been continuing to discriminate against women? Last week the Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Mr. Welch) spoke about affirmative action to a conference called by a number of organizations connected with teachers and trustees on school boards. The minister came out four-square in saying "affirmative action is crucial"—and he underlined "is"—"to equal opportunity for women," but then he went on to stop short of mandatory affirmative action.

He said: "The point I am making is that, like the government, the educational system is a role model, a crucial one in which our children spend over 30 hours every week. What better place to demonstrate equal opportunity than in the schools and the classrooms?"

"We must remember that school boards are publicly funded. Ontarians are a just and patient people. They bestow the privilege of considerable autonomy upon their public agencies, but in return they expect evidence of a responsible stewardship. The people of Ontario expect results." "Results" is underlined.

"Affirmative action programs make good business sense. Good management develops and utilizes all"—and he underlined "all"—"the talent available and produces positive results for students and teachers alike."

It seems to me the minister has made the case admirably for mandatory affirmative action because he said it is so very important and that school boards are publicly funded and should be leading the way. But we have had voluntary affirmative action for eight years in this province and only 18 out of 62 school boards have affirmative action programs. I think the record speaks for itself. It is time the minister stopped trying to kid the people of Ontario that the voluntary approach is working.

Most of the other references to women in the throne speech are nonpromises. Instead of action to meet immediate needs, the government proposes to review "access to and the quality of child care in Ontario." Instead of a thorough overhaul of the flawed Family Law Reform Act, the government proposes to review "the definition of family property." It is supposed to have been reviewing this for the last 15 months, according to a statement in the House in December 1982.

Instead of proposals for tougher new laws on family maintenance orders, the government simply says "a strict enforcement of family maintenance orders will be instituted." This is at least an admission of weak enforcement in the past. There are estimated to be \$42 million worth of maintenance orders for spouses and children not being paid in this province. That is the amount of uncollected maintenance payments. This affects something like 40,000 spouses and an unnumbered count of children.

When we asked for up-to-date statistics—the \$42 million being one year old—we were told that the government was no longer keeping statistics on the unpaid and uncollected maintenance orders. How are they going to change that picture? How are they going to make stricter enforcement? They have not told us yet.

In the throne speech the government now recognizes that battered wives are "an intolerable social problem." However, it makes no concrete promises to implement the many untouched



recommendations in the 1982 report on wife battering by the Legislature's social development committee.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** Nonsense. The member has seen the new formula.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Ms. Bryden:** The speech simply says, "Funding will be increased for transition houses and the northern family resource centres and associated services to encourage greater community involvement in addressing this intolerable social problem." Does this mean adequate funding for interval houses or a continuation of throwing much of the burden on local government and dedicated women volunteers? Does it mean funds will be made available for more than room and board? For example, interval houses need funds for counselling services, for rehabilitation and resettlement services for women who may have to leave their homes permanently.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** Was that not included?

**Ms. Bryden:** No. There has been nothing specific on that.

They need funds for municipal and community outreach and education to let the victims know what services are available and to get at the causes of wife battering. They need funds in the community to deal with wife batterers—what causes them to engage in that kind of activity?

We are left in the dark on exactly what the government is going to do in that field. They have not accepted the recommendation of the legislative committee for block grants, which is the only way to free interval houses from dependence on the decision of municipalities on what services will be funded.

The government also announced in the throne speech that it is now prepared to include in the civil service part-timers who work on a regular basis, but it should clarify what is being promised. Is the government considering the full range of benefits, including pensions, group life insurance, dental, extended health, long-term income protection, vacation credits, statutory holidays, maternity and adoption leaves and severance pay, etc.? Or do the vague words "to provide wider access to improved rights and benefits" mean that part-timers will get pay and benefits proportionate to what is received by full-time civil servants? Or are they simply weasel words that allow the government to get credit for some extension of rights and benefits but to continue discriminating against part-timers?

**8:40 p.m.**

Actually, the background paper to the throne speech produced by the women's directorate indicated this initiative would cover approximately 7,000 part-time workers, of whom 75 per cent were women, but would not include seasonal staff. After questioning those figures, we now find that only about 3,000 to 3,400 workers will be covered, according to the Civil Service Commission. The government actually employs 12,644 unclassified staff. Only about one quarter of the unclassified staff is covered by this initiative. It is as yet unclear how far it goes.

The publication of those misleading figures resulted in laudatory editorials in both the *Globe and Mail* and the *Toronto Star* about the government moving to look after part-time workers on the regular staff. It should make an apology to those papers for misleading them into thinking the initiative involved anything like 7,000 workers.

What is needed is to bring all part-time regular workers fully under the Employment Standards Act. We should recognize that with part-time work likely to become more important as a result of the technological revolution and computerization, we need a charter of rights for part-time workers. There are about 700,000 in Ontario today, and about 71 per cent are women. The step in the throne speech is a faltering mini-step, not a giant step to end the exploitation of part-timers in this province.

That is my summation of what is in the throne speech for women, but there are some other subjects I want to deal with that affect women or groups of women. One is the question of the government's treatment of one of the most exploited groups of women in this province. I refer to domestic workers who live in.

In 1981, the government finally yielded to pressure from New Democratic Party members and many other people concerned about the plight of these workers. It brought in the domestic workers regulation under the Employment Standards Act which guaranteed them a \$3 minimum wage, which was 50 cents below the minimum wage for other workers. It also provided for 36 consecutive hours off per week. It did not extend the other sections of the Employment Standards Act to them, and it did not bring in any limitation of hours or overtime.

Under the present regulations, these workers can be called on to work or be on call for 120 hours a week. It was 132 hours before they subtracted another 12 hours in March 1984. For employers who take advantage of this gap in the



law, it could mean an effective pay rate of not much more than \$1 an hour.

The changes brought in during March 1984 are the government's only response to much lobbying over the past three years by groups of domestic workers, by people supporting them and by members of this party. The minimal changes were to give the domestics the same 35-cent increase in the minimum wage that other workers got but to keep the 50-cent disparity between the minimum wage for them and for other workers.

It looked as if the government was catching up with the 20th century and giving them a five-day week when it increased the time off to 48 hours. But we find it is still not 48 consecutive hours; it is simply adding 12 hours which the employer may give at any other time of the week. So they are not yet into the 20th century, where most people get at least two days off a week.

Equally shocking and discriminatory is the refusal of the government to impose any limit on total hours of work or to provide for any form of overtime pay. As I said, they may still be on call or at work for 120 hours a week.

The government is showing its biases in this legislation. A recent study showed that 75 per cent of those who employ domestic live-in workers have incomes of more than \$35,000. This study, which was done by a federal task force, said that raising the minimum wage would be unlikely to have a significant effect on demand. The government is simply favouring well-off employers of domestic workers, and the workers are in effect being asked to subsidize these employers.

It is a heartless and unfeeling government that would permit a group of employees who have little protection against exploitation and little possibility of forming a union to be exploited in this way. For the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) to suggest, as he did in the debate last December on Bill 141, that they are covered by the equal pay section of the Employment Standards Act is really ludicrous. How can one compare a live-in domestic worker with a male employee doing substantially the same work in the same establishment? There are virtually no such cases.

Intercede, the International Coalition to End Domestic Exploitation, supports the claims of domestic workers for fair treatment. In a recent brief to the government of Ontario, it said, "Nearly three years have now transpired since that first step was taken"—that is, to extend any laws to cover domestic workers—"and Intercede

wishes to underscore the fact that domestic workers (all classifications, including babysitters and companions) are still among the most exploited and underprotected workers in the province of Ontario."

In addition to bringing domestic workers fully under the Employment Standards Act, the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act and the Labour Relations Act must also be fully extended to them. In addition, domestic workers who work part-time should get comparable benefits proportionate to the number of hours worked. At present, they are not covered by the minimum wage.

That is another area where the government has not shown leadership. In fact, it has shown the opposite and is favouring a well-off section of society against a very deprived section.

Another area I wish to deal with is the question of day care. In 1931, the government of Ontario promised to provide free and quality education for all children over the age of seven. In the 53 years that have passed, Ontario has taken pride in the quality of care her children receive. It is strange that ensuring universal and affordable care for preschool children should be such a battle, yet it is still a battle in this province.

**8:50 p.m.**

The facts show clearly that women are not going to disappear from the labour market. Female participation in the labour force is a financial necessity, and child care is a major factor in women's access to employment. Even in two-parent families, the myth that women work for extras has been exploded.

Of most crucial concern are the 43 per cent of all female-headed households that live in poverty. If we believe it is important for them to rise above their current situation, accessible child care for these single working parents is of first priority.

Despite what the government of Ontario may think, child care is an issue. More than 54 per cent of women with children six years of age and younger are in the work force, and the demand for universally accessible, publicly funded, not-for-profit, quality day care is not about to vanish.

The situation in Ontario today is that severe lack of funding and government inattention has led to long waiting lists for subsidized spaces. More than 1,000 children are on waiting lists in Metro Toronto alone. No significant expansion in day care has taken place to accommodate those who wait. In fact, government restraint and new regulations resulting in cuts in indirect subsidies



to municipal day care centres have already led to the closing of two day care centres in Stratford and Val Rita, near Kapuskasing, while others in places like Smiths Falls teeter on the brink of closure.

Municipal day care centres used to be able to expect the provincial government to pay the share of operating expenses that could not be met through fees to parents. It helped keep child care costs down for everyone, but now the province is demanding that day care centres must means-test all parents. The province will cost-share for only those spaces occupied by children whose parents meet the criteria for assistance. All other parents will have to pay the full cost, and many working parents will be forced to withdraw their children as they simply cannot afford the fees.

The full fee structure will be completely phased in by 1986. By that time, fees in some centres will have risen from \$9 a day to \$25 a day, according to estimates made by students of day care. Certainly wages in this province are not climbing at the same rate. For poorer families the alternative to well-supervised and programmed child care centres is unlicensed day care or leaving the children with older relatives who have already borne the responsibility for raising a generation. For single mothers especially it may mean withdrawing from the work force and joining the welfare ranks.

Under the new setup, low- to middle-income parents, who are least able to afford full-fee day care, will be the ones most affected. In Toronto in 1982 these groups paid between 13.5 per cent and 23 per cent of their take-home pay for child care, but now only the very poor who meet subsidy criteria or the very well-off who benefit from income tax deductions, will be able to afford day care. Most working women will be forced into even further income disparity with working men because of the high cost of day care.

Affordable child care is one of the cornerstones of affirmative action to which the provincial government pays lipservice but seems determined to undermine.

We should not forget that the wages of child care workers, most of whom are women, are extremely low because child care centres attempt to keep fees for parents as low as possible. A child care worker with two years' formal training at a community college level earns, on average, only \$10,000 annually. In Toronto, recreation instructors with the municipality and with two years' similar training earn between \$24,000 and \$27,000 a year. Nurses start at \$22,000 with two

years' training. The low wages for child care workers perpetuate job ghettos for women and result in high staff turnover. In turn, this results in poorer-quality child care.

The squeeze felt by nonprofit, charitable and locally run child care organizations is making room for multinational commercial corporations to move into Ontario. These US-based corporations compete by paying child care workers even lower wages than public nurseries do. They process children through day care like hamburgers through McDonald's. Profit, not the best possible care for children, is their motive.

In January 1984 the revised standards and guidelines under the Day Nurseries Act for the provision of child care came into effect. While we welcome the introduction of new and better standards for day care, no additional funding has been provided to implement the better standards. Parents will be facing higher fees as a consequence, and day care centres will be even further strapped for funds as they work to meet the new requirements.

The government must take these immediate steps to alleviate the financial and emotional stress that families in this province are now facing in providing quality child care to their children.

First, the government must expand the number of new subsidized spaces. The Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care estimates 10,000 new spaces are needed.

Second, the government should establish a task force or a legislative committee to conduct public hearings throughout the province to ensure the development of appropriate legislation and a comprehensive system of early childhood services in Ontario.

Third, the government should immediately provide a direct per-day, per-space subsidy of at least \$5 to all nonprofit child care centres. The direct grant is of vital importance. It would be an initial step towards making day care more accessible since it will offset the operating cost. In some instances the direct grant could go towards reducing parents' fees and in others to raising salaries. In either case the immediate impact would be better-quality care for our children and more equitable access to the job market for women.

I want to discuss the impact of the micro-technological revolution on women. Since this revolution, which is as great as the industrial revolution of the past century, affects office workers, communications workers and workers in financial transactions, the threat to women's



jobs is greater than for other workers because the vast majority of women are employed in occupations such as tellers, typists and telephone operators.

**9 p.m.**

However, there is no doubt that the technological revolution will affect all workers. It has been estimated that it could eliminate 500,000 jobs by the early 1990s and that it could raise unemployment to more than 20 per cent unless we plan for its development and its entry into Ontario and turn it to our benefit.

Because this problem is looming and not very much attention has been paid to it by government, the New Democratic Party set up a task force last fall to look into the potential impact of this revolution on workers of all kinds and to come up with recommendations on how to adapt to the revolution. We are not suggesting we should oppose the technological changes but that we should make them servants of the people rather than making the people servants of them.

The task force spent six months travelling around the province visiting major centres such as Ottawa, Thunder Bay, Windsor, Sudbury and other centres. In Sudbury, the task force went down a mine to see what new technology was doing to employment in mines. We discovered a mine in Sudbury that had been closed had been reopened. It had been employing about 800 workers and was now back to 200 workers on an experimental basis with some new high-technology drilling and other machinery which was greatly increasing productivity. It looked like a way of creating new jobs and getting new productivity out of mines that had been closed.

The task force also met with academics, labour and management, community workers and social workers at round tables in the various centres it visited to find out how much awareness there was of the problems and what sort of solutions were being suggested. After this consultation, it produced a report that came out at the end of March on the subject of Work, People and Technological Change. The report recommends a comprehensive program to shorten working hours, make training a part of every job and give workers a major role in work-place decisions.

That seems to be one of the major elements lacking in present plans to adapt to technological change. The task force said not only should workers be notified about potential changes well in advance, but also they should be involved in planning adjustment to them. More is needed than simply adjustment in the work place affected. What is needed is a redistribution of the

benefits of the new productivity and the new efficiency from the technological change, so those who are displaced by the changes will be provided with opportunities to retrain and enter into the new areas where jobs are being created.

For women in particular the task force noted that the problems of adjustment to technological change are compounded by the continued existence of systemic discrimination and sex stereotyping in the work place and in society. They noted there are special problems for women in retraining, linked to their lack of education in science and mathematics. They noted there is a real danger that women now working will be passed over by the electronics revolution and replaced by younger workers with more appropriate education and training.

They also warned of the danger that women will lose everything they have gained in the battle for an equal place in the work force as a result of the technological revolution's changes and displacements and, therefore, special positive measures must be taken to prevent women being the main losers.

They could find themselves segregated again in low-paid, deskilled jobs simply pushing buttons. Even worse, they could find themselves back in the home with a terminal installed beside the kitchen stove, with their child care problems solved but with no regulation of standards and complete isolation in the job. This is the sort of scenario we want to avoid. It can be avoided only if we fully involve workers, management and the government in planning for technological change to make sure all workers and all potential workers benefit from it.

The task force recommends that we should work towards a lower work week. The present work week in the law is 48 hours a week, with overtime paid after 44 hours, but the average work week is now about 38 hours.

It has been estimated that if we immediately reduced the hours from 38 to 30 a week, there would be an increase of 875,000 jobs. Obviously, we cannot do it overnight and at the same time maintain take-home pay, but we can do it gradually and use the increase in productivity to ensure there is no reduction in real income. Our objective is to get down to 32 hours some time after 1990.

That is one of the major recommendations. That would affect a lot of women as well.

Another recommendation of the task force that affects women in particular calls for legislation to regulate daily work hours spent at a video display terminal. It suggests that work at a terminal



should be combined with other responsibilities to reduce exposure to possible health risks and to avoid isolating operators in VDT job ghettos.

There is no legislation anywhere in Canada regulating work with VDTs. While there are conflicting reports on whether there are potential health effects, there has not been enough research to establish whether or not there is a real health hazard. We need more monitoring of the workers and more studies of the effect of VDTs on health, eyesight and things of that sort. We need legislation in this field.

My colleague the member for Scarborough West (Mr. R. F. Johnston) introduced such legislation as a private member's bill two years ago but so far we have not seen any move by the government to adopt this kind of legislation.

There are also a lot of men working with video display terminals now. I think all workers need protective laws regarding the use of these terminals.

The task force encourages extension of affirmative action programs to ensure that women can take advantage of the retraining needed to move into nontraditional jobs and to share fairly in the new and better-paid jobs created by the new technology.

**9:10 p.m.**

It also suggests special measures may be needed to ensure training schemes do not shortchange women. For example, it proposes training credits for workers which may be part of their jobs, negotiated in collective agreements or granted as lifetime credits for education.

These training credits may need to be enriched for women as long as they suffer from wage discrimination, because presumably they would simply pay the workers their regular daily rate while they are training. But many women are paid much less than men—it still averages 60 per cent of what men make—so the training would not be of comparable value in maintaining their standard of living at a level equal to that of the male trainees.

The task force asserts that any policy aimed at ensuring women an equitable share of the benefits of the new technology must go beyond providing equal access to nontraditional education and training. It must seek to change the way in which both the labour market and the work place practise systemic discrimination against women.

In effect, that means the system—the personnel selection, the hiring practices and the choosing of people for promotion and retraining—tends to be biased against women. There tend to be more

males than females among those who are making the decisions, and traditionally certain jobs have been thought of as women's work and other jobs as men's work. They have to overcome this systemic discrimination that is keeping women in only one section of the labour force and producing ghettos.

Part of Ontario's response to technological change therefore should be legislation to bring in equal pay for work of equal value and mandatory affirmative action. The task force points out that if we succeed in raising productivity through new and more efficient processes, this reform would be easier to afford. That is an important point in the report. They also consider breaking down job ghettos is essential if men and women are to be treated equally.

The task force suggests job rotation systems and occupational bridging where women can move from one job to another on a seconded basis to try out their skills and learn skills as they move. It suggests some revision of job descriptions and job classification systems as measures that could be adopted to end the ghettoization.

A very important recommendation of the task force relates to raising the status of part-time workers, 75 per cent of whom are women at present. As I mentioned earlier, part-time workers need their own charter of rights. The task force suggests they should be entitled to become part of the bargaining unit, to accumulate pension credits in proportion to their work and to qualify for training credits and on-the-job training.

This report is the first brought out by a group of elected politicians in Canada to study the impact of microelectronics and computerization on workers in our labour force.

As a member of the task force I am particularly concerned that the recommendations be carefully studied and as many as possible be adopted. I would urge the government to consider one of its final recommendations—that a legislative committee be set up on work and technological change to raise awareness of the issues and to make recommendations for action. The member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy), one of the co-chairmen of the committee, said, "Technological change is hurtling down on us and we must be prepared for the impact."

There are a lot of other subjects I would like to deal with but in consideration of other people who want to speak on the subject I will simply mention that we must look at more skills training and apprenticeship availability for women to help them move into nontraditional jobs. We



must consider the question of equal access to sports opportunities and to funding for sports for women and girls. A report was brought out on this a year ago, but we have not yet heard any reaction from the government on whether it is going to consider any of the recommendations.

We think there should be special consideration of the problems of immigrant women who have difficulty finding employment in the present system and also in understanding our labour laws. Many of them are being exploited in places where they are not organized into unions and where they are not able to understand what is going on. We need improved labour laws that would help groups of that sort to organize, as well as groups such as Eaton's employees and other retail workers who are not organized. This will affect a great many women as well as a great many men.

We need the development of a nonsexist pension system that will provide adequate retirement income for both men and women workers. At the moment, women workers are particularly badly served by pension plans. Very few of them benefit from private plans because they do not stay long enough in one job and their pay is so low anyway that any pension they might earn is not enough to keep them above the poverty line.

We need changes in the Human Rights Code to prevent women from being fired because of pregnancy, as happened recently. A woman who had taken her pregnancy leave was taken back after her pregnancy leave and fired the same day on the ground that she had pregnancy leave and she was no longer protected from being fired. The law under which the employer can fire anybody without any given cause still applies under our Employment Standards Act. She had no protection against being fired the day after she returned, even though there had been no criticism of her work before she left on her pregnancy leave. She had been considered a satisfactory employee.

We need an improvement in the sexual harassment provisions in the Human Rights Code. The description of what constitutes sexual harassment is still not broad enough to protect women from this sort of activity. We need more action to end sex stereotyping in the schools and in the media. Those are some of the areas I would have liked to spend some time on.

One final area I would like to mention is the need for family law reform. The Family Law Reform Act has been in effect since 1978, more than five years. The Attorney General (Mr.

McMurtry) promised in December 1982 to review it and to bring in legislative proposals before March 31, 1984. That day has come and gone and we still have not seen any legislative proposals from him. There are vague things in the throne speech suggesting proposals, as I mentioned. It seems to me he should get off the pot and tell us what proposals he is bringing in as a result of that review.

He should table the reports from his internal review, any recommendations that were made as well as his proposed legislation, then refer them to a legislative committee for public hearings. Only in this way will we find out all the deficiencies in the Family Law Reform Act and only this way will we find out how many loopholes are in it and what sort of groups are being disadvantaged.

**9:20 p.m.**

We know from the Leatherdale decision and the Stoimenov decision that there are great weaknesses in the act affecting both the matrimonial home and the recognition of work in the home by the spouse. Until these are corrected, a great many more women will suffer loss of the entitlement they should have to sharing the assets acquired during the marriage.

In fact, the whole concept of deciding what are family assets should be looked at. I think the distinction between family and nonfamily assets should be withdrawn. We should adopt the recommendation of the 1974 Law Reform Commission of Ontario, which suggested the law in Ontario should be that all assets which come into the marriage after the marriage, except inheritances, should be split equally between the spouses.

At the present time, only assets that are defined as family assets are split equally. Yet the preamble of the Family Law Reform Act says the province regards marriage as a form of partnership. With that distinction between family assets and nonfamily assets still in the law, it is not a recognition of marriage as a partnership because the wife does contribute to the acquisition of nonfamily assets such as registered retirement savings plans, pensions, insurance and even stocks and bonds. I think all of those should be split equally, and that was the recommendation of the law reform commission.

Three provinces, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba, now split practically all assets under the law. Even though the Attorney General boasted that Ontario pioneered in this field, the other provinces have pushed ahead of us a long



way and we do not have a very equitable Family Law Reform Act.

I get letters from women who have spent all their lives in the home raising children. One woman, the wife of an army officer had moved about the country many times. She had to uproot a family of six children many times and re-establish the home in a new place. She was never able to go out to work or take on a job. She was fully occupied with looking after this family and all these moves. After the family had all gone and after many years of marriage, she was left by her spouse with practically no benefits except half of the matrimonial home; yet she contributed greatly to the pension and other savings of the spouse.

She is not alone. There are many women like that. They are sort of a silent majority and we do not hear from them. They are being severely disadvantaged by the present law. That is an area I think we must look at and see that there is real reform there and that these loopholes are closed. Some of the loopholes also affect men who are being disadvantaged under the present law. I think they should have the opportunity to come forward and tell us their story as well.

I moved a motion for a select or standing committee to deal with this over a year ago and I still have not seen any action from the government. Certainly an internal committee simply receiving briefs, without any opportunity for cross-examination, is not a true answer to finding out the deficiencies in the act. I would urge the government to consider this approach as well.

There is one other issue I want to refer to for a minute. The member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon) mentioned his trip to Russia in connection with the Soviet refuseniks. I am a co-chairperson of the Ontario legislative committee on Soviet Jewry. This Legislature set it up as an all-party committee to speak out for the people in Russia who are Jewish and who have been refused emigration visas to rejoin their families.

We should urge all members of the Legislature to join this committee. There are 43 members now. All one has to do is send a letter to one of the three co-chairmen, the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt), the member for Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg) or myself, stating one would like to be a member of this committee. The more members, the louder our voice when we write letters to the Soviet Union urging them to live up to the Helsinki pacts and the Helsinki agreement under which the right to emigrate is a human right.

It is a right that should not be denied when people wish to join their own families. It is being denied now to Jewish people in Russia. Not only is it being denied but anybody who asks is gravely persecuted. He often loses his job; his children lose their chance at university; he is put to do very menial work and virtually loses his human rights. Therefore, I would join with the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk in urging all members to join this committee and occasionally write a letter on behalf of the refuseniks.

**Mr. Piché:** M. le Président, I am certainly pleased this evening to see so many members in the House to hear history in the making about transportation in the north. At the same time, they will get an education about what transportation is all about in the north.

**Mr. Stokes:** The proof of the pudding is in the eating. Let us hear it.

**Mr. Piché:** Says the member for Lake Nipigon.

The throne speech has generated a great deal of interesting and wide-ranging discussion among members of this House. That is precisely its purpose. It is through such a frank and open debate on the vital issues in our society that the government is able to maintain responsive and responsible policies. I am pleased to rise today to add my contribution to this most important debate.

Some of the issues that are of vital importance to me and the people I represent are those affecting northern Ontario and the wellbeing of northerners. Members also know I have always maintained that the economic and social development of the north rests on one crucial factor, and that is transportation.

Transportation to northerners means a link with major markets. Transportation means access to vital social services, such as health care. Transportation means participation in the life of our province. In sum, the quality of transportation determines the quality of life in the north. The federal government plays a major role in regulating and providing transportation services, particularly rail and air in northern Ontario. Unfortunately, the type of policy occasionally pursued by Ottawa and the national railways has not always been beneficial to northerners.

**9:30 p.m.**

In the past, federal cutbacks in rail service to some northern communities have cut their economic lifeline, increased their isolation and made it more difficult for southern travellers to reach northern communities. I can say with



confidence that our government has been consistent in opposing these kinds of negative policies. It has always recognized that the transportation of people and goods are most important to the development of the north. Most important, the Ontario government has always upheld the philosophy that transportation services to the north must be assessed not only from an economic perspective but also in human terms.

The operation of the Ontario Northland Railway reflects this philosophy. This people's railway has provided exceptional service to the residents of northeastern Ontario.

The government has recently reaffirmed its commitment to the wellbeing of northerners with the implementation of an improved and cost-efficient made-in-the-north rail policy. The Ministry of Northern Affairs announced earlier this year its intention to purchase from Can-Car Rail Inc. in Thunder Bay two complete bilevel trains to serve the rail route from Toronto to Timmins to Kapuskasing and, I hope, extend it to Hearst. I am very pleased to see that this initiative was also spelled out in the throne speech.

This is good news indeed for rail travellers in the north. It is also good news for the manufacturing sector in Thunder Bay where the bilevel railway cars will be built. The government announcement is particularly gratifying to me not only as a representative of a large northern community but also as a concerned Ontarian who has spent many years seeking to improve transportation services in the north.

M. le Président, j'ai la ferme conviction que la clé du développement pour le nord de l'Ontario et pour l'ensemble de l'Ontario réside dans une politique intégrée dans le domaine du transport. Mes collègues ici connaissent l'importance de ce dossier.

En tant que maire de la ville de Kapuskasing et président du groupe d'action des municipalités du nord-est, j'ai toujours travaillé à l'amélioration du système de transport dans le nord. En 1979 le groupe d'action a publié un rapport détaillé sur les besoins en terme de transport ainsi que plusieurs recommandations pour amener une solution aux problèmes de transport dans cette belle partie de la province.

Je suis fier de faire partie d'un gouvernement qui a mis en place plusieurs recommandations de ce rapport et qui envisage de continuer à travailler sur le dossier.

Le groupe d'action avait recommandé que le système de transport par train soit amélioré. Récemment, notre gouvernement a annoncé qu'en 1986 un nouveau train, à deux niveaux,

entrera en service dans le nord de l'Ontario pour faire le trajet de Kapuskasing, Toronto et Hearst.

Je vois deux avantages à ce nouveau projet. D'abord, nous aurons une amélioration dans le service aux passagers; le trajet sera plus rapide et plus confortable.

Je vois aussi un autre aspect intéressant à ceci. Ce train sera conçu et fabriqué dans le nord de la province, à Thunder Bay. Tout en créant de l'emploi, nous aurons maintenant un produit de qualité internationale que nous pourrions exporter à travers le monde. La participation du gouvernement, et en particulier celle du ministère des Affaires du Nord, fut très importante dans la réalisation de ce projet.

Un autre aspect du transport que je voudrais aborder aujourd'hui est le transport aérien. En 1971 le gouvernement ontarien a créé norOntair, une branche de la Commission de transport Ontario Northland. Les gens du nord comprennent l'importance et le rôle de cette compagnie d'aviation. L'avion est le moyen le plus rapide et le plus économique de parcourir les grandes distances dans le nord.

A ses débuts, norOntair desservait quatre communautés et environ 500 passagers par mois. Aujourd'hui nous retrouvons norOntair dans 21 villes du nord, et près de 11,000 personnes par mois profitent des services de norOntair.

La période de croissance de norOntair est loin d'être finie. L'automne prochain, une autre amélioration importante est prévue avec l'achat de l'avion Dash-8. Cet avion est supérieur au Twin Otter présentement utilisé, plus rapide, plus confortable et certainement plus économique.

Un nouveau standard de qualité vient d'être établi pour le service aérien dans le nord de l'Ontario. En plus, le gouvernement fédéral vient d'annoncer un projet de \$4 millions pour améliorer l'aéroport de l'île de Toronto. Le Dash-8 pourrait y atterrir et ainsi les gens du nord pourront bénéficier d'un vol direct près du centre-ville de Toronto.

Members of this House may remember that as mayor of Kapuskasing, I participated as a member and as chairman of the Northeastern Ontario Municipalities Action Group. The motto of our group was "Transportation is the key to northern development." All our deliberations and actions had one goal: to improve the transportation of people and goods in our region and in the north. In fact, back in 1979, the action group compiled a detailed report on the needs of



northern Ontario in terms of passenger transportation.

Among our many recommendations was the suggestion that modern, comfortable and attractive equipment be introduced in the north. We recommended that new rail equipment with light, rapid, comfortable features be purchased for northern rail service. We stressed the importance of rail cars that are comfortable and modern, with airline-type seats and air conditioning. We emphasized the importance of a fast, quiet ride and high-quality service to attract passengers.

In 1979 we also recommended that Dash-7 aircraft be introduced in the north. In this context we considered the advantage to northern travelers in expanding the use of the Toronto Island Airport for air ambulance purposes.

These last two points are important and I would like to discuss them in some detail. First, allow me briefly to review the history and development of air service transportation in the north. In 1971 the government of Ontario established norOntair. This is the air services division of the Ontario Northland Transportation Commission. The actual operations of the airline are carried out by private air carriers operating under contract to Ontario Northland. Those carriers are Air-Dale Ltd. of Sault Ste. Marie, On Air (1979) Ltd. of Thunder Bay and Austin Airways of Timmins.

After a decade of operation the success of norOntair is obvious. Traffic, which was about 500 passengers a month in the early years, has grown to almost 11,000 passengers a month. At the same time the network, which began in 1971 with four communities, has been extended to 21 communities and plans are under way to add several more.

The ready acceptance and use of the airline exemplify the need and benefit of air travel services over great distances and difficult terrain. They emphasize the special role of the airline in service for passengers, freight and mail.

Mr. Speaker, I am just looking around to see if anybody is listening.

**Mr. Conway:** Be assured the member has my rapt attention.

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** I want a copy of the speech to send to my constituents.

**Mr. Piché:** As many copies as the member wishes will be available right after I have completed my address.

**An hon. member:** In both languages.

**Mr. Piché:** In both languages.

**Mr. Stokes:** As soon as the member says something new, we will applaud. He has not said anything I have not heard before.

**Mr. Piché:** That is not very nice from a colleague of mine who sat here a few minutes ago and said, "Go to it. I will support you. It is for the north; it is transportation. It must be said," and on and on. Now the member comes out with this comment. I cannot understand that.

**Mr. Stokes:** Tell me something I do not know.  
9:40 p.m.

**Mr. Piché:** Apologize or I will not continue.

**Mr. Stokes:** I apologize.

**Mr. Piché:** I must continue for the good of the north. It highlights the benefits for businessmen and the communities they visit. For example, it has been shown that about 70 per cent of the passenger travel is for business purposes, for businessmen in northern Ontario. It is obviously an important aspect of industrial and commercial life in northern Ontario.

Businessmen and their companies have come to depend on it as an integral part of their day-to-day business activities in the economic development of the north. This reflects the airline's role of helping to reduce the isolation of scattered communities in northern Ontario and will facilitate air service connections with southern Ontario.

NorOntair currently enjoys a positive working relationship with Air Canada and Nordair by providing important connections to the region for those larger carriers. Some 55 per cent of all norOntair passengers are connecting to or from other airplanes and airlines.

I should add that the Ontario government's approach to extending norOntario services to particular communities has been guided by the principle that the private sector should be encouraged to offer the services it feels can be commercially viable. After assessing the years of norOntair experience, the government of Ontario is convinced the airline has a vital and important role to play in the development of northern Ontario.

With that in mind, further expansion of the system is under way and will feature the introduction of the Dash-8 aircraft of de Havilland Aircraft of Canada in 1984. NorOntair will become a first customer for this 36-seat, energy-efficient, pressurized aircraft. NorOntair, which carried close to 100,000 passengers last year, is scheduled to take delivery of the first of the two de Havilland Dash-8s next fall. This will enable the airline to realize some cost-efficiencies in the



long term, while providing some striking improvements in the areas of comfort and speed for norOntair passengers.

As I mentioned earlier, the operations of norOntair are contracted out to three different private sector carriers in the north, providing support for the aviation sector in northern Ontario. This will continue to be the case with the Dash-8.

**Mr. Stokes:** Is that not the company your federal Tory colleagues keep complaining about?

**Mr. Piché:** Not that I am aware of. I should add that the Ontario government experienced a few anxious moments over the last year as it monitored the federal discussions regarding financial support for de Havilland's Dash-8 program. Fortunately, it was announced recently that de Havilland is receiving an infusion of funds from the federal government and the program is proceeding as planned.

That is welcome news for us all, both in northern and southern Ontario. De Havilland has been one of the real strengths of the Canadian aerospace industry and the Dash-8 is one of its finest products ever.

**Mr. Stokes:** Which company is going to get to operate it?

**Mr. Piché:** As I understand it, that has not been decided yet; it is under close scrutiny by the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier). Obviously there should be a decision soon, since we expect the first Dash-8 to be in service this fall in the northeast.

The Dash-8 program for the north means jobs in Metro Toronto as well as better service for northern Ontarians. The Dash-8 aircraft is superior in many ways to the existing Twin Otters. It is larger and roomier. It is of higher quality. It is faster and more fuel-efficient. It sets a new standard for northern transportation. Something that interests me is it opens the possibility of a more direct and uninterrupted route to Toronto for northern travellers.

I read in the papers the other day that the federal government plans to spend \$4 million over the next few years to improve the Toronto Island Airport. This is part of the \$13-million federal government commitment to install a microwave landing system for the long-delayed Toronto-Montreal-Ottawa commuter air service. Once this service is established, the federal government has said it will provide assistance to build a link to the mainland. This is a very exciting development.

An improved Toronto Island Airport would provide an ideal southern terminal for northern

travellers, particularly with the use of the new Dash-8 aircraft. For example, it would serve an essential function in the special health care needs of northern citizens who must be transported to Toronto. Since the airport is close to downtown medical facilities, it would be possible to avoid the traffic delays and the added cost of transporting patients from Lester B. Pearson International Airport to Toronto hospitals.

Direct service also could be provided for the transportation of people who need to do business in the city. It is my conviction that improvements and extensions in the Toronto Island Airport's operation would contribute in a positive way to the economic and social wellbeing of both Metro Toronto and other regions of Ontario.

When it comes right down to it, I believe in a province-wide approach to development. Toronto is the focal point of Ontario with respect to industry, commerce, education, medical services and cultural and recreational facilities. However, we must not forget its growth has been accelerated by resources external to it as well as internal. It is not unreasonable to expect that Metro Toronto should also give its resources on a greater scale than simply within its municipal boundaries.

As a northerner, I would be delighted to see all levels of government co-operating to discuss current policies and to review possible future developments in the field of air transportation. The idea I have in mind, as does the Northeastern Ontario Municipalities Action Group, is to foresee the day when northerners can board a modern airline in their own communities and travel to Toronto without having to change to another flight, even do a day's business or whatever brings anyone to Toronto, and that same evening return home to the north.

We have already come a long way in bridging the vastness of the north-south gap in Ontario. Since the Ministry of Northern Affairs was created in 1977, it has invested more than \$700 million in northern transportation programs and facilities. In that period, the ministry has invested some \$400 million in northern roads. This total does not include the \$35 million spent on the Detour Lake road or the \$53.1 million spent on the construction of other economic development roads throughout the north.

In an average year, the Ministry of Northern Affairs commits approximately 80 per cent of its total budget to transportation. In 1983, the Ministry of Northern Affairs spent about \$116 million on transportation in northern Ontario. All the government's transportation programs have



aimed to reduce isolation, to increase opportunities for industrial development and tourism, and to help reduce costs in the north.

**9:50 p.m.**

With the new bilevel rail equipment and its schedule designed to meet the needs of the travelling public, railway service in the north will be improved further. The new service will be second to none in Canada in comfort and convenience.

Although the train sets are being designed specifically to meet the needs of northeastern Ontario, their potential use is worldwide. The introduction of this new equipment in 1986 will serve as a showcase for Ontario technology and help us to sell it both here in Canada and in other countries.

The Ontario Northland Railway bilevels will be designed, developed, tested and manufactured in northern Ontario at the Can-Car Rail Inc. facility of the Urban Transportation Development Corp. in Thunder Bay. The federal government will contribute \$1 million to this program as its share of the development costs, with a matching contribution being made by the UTDC.

The finished products will be out of the plant in time for Expo 86 in Vancouver, where they will be part of Ontario's transportation showcase. Later in 1986 they will be brought back to Ontario to inaugurate a more comfortable, more reliable, safer and cleaner service for the ONR's overnight run between Toronto, Kapuskasing and Timmins, and as I mentioned earlier in this address, it will be expanded to Hearst.

By the time the new service is started in 1986, we must make sure the new trains are run with updated and new ideas. We must ensure that emphasis is on public service. To guarantee the best public service we will have to reach out to the travelling public in northern Ontario and find out exactly what people want. We will have to identify when and how often people want trains to operate and what type of service they will be looking for. In other words, we will have to seek input concerning schedules and amenities from those people who will be using the improved rail service.

I would like to state my intention here today to fully participate in this progress. I believe it is the only way to truly represent northern interests. I have perfect faith that the Ministry of Northern Affairs intends to follow the same course of action. We will discuss this after. In my experience the ministry has always placed great importance on sitting down face to face with

northern delegations, representatives of associations and individuals when discussing northern needs or opportunities.

En conclusion, M. le Président, je voudrais rappeler à mes collègues l'importance de continuer le travail pour l'amélioration des services de transport dans le nord de l'Ontario. Notre survie économique et sociale en dépend.

In concluding, I would like to remind members of this House that the survival of Canada as a nation was ensured by the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It linked the country together. In the same spirit, we must link the northern and southern parts of our province together. We must try for economic and social integration of the north and south to build and maintain a sense of community and understanding between our regions.

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join in this debate following upon the very excellent and timely addresses of my colleagues the member for Cochrane North (Mr. Piché) and the member for Beaches-Woodbine (Ms. Bryden).

I want to direct my remarks this evening to an extremely important activity in Ontario, one that relates very directly to my constituency. That has to do, of course, with the nuclear industry.

I stand here as the member for Renfrew North, wherein the Canadian and Ontario nuclear industry was born some 40 years ago. It is an industry that is vital to my constituents, whether they work, as 2,350 do, at the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratory, at the Ontario Hydro facilities at Rolphoton or down on Highway 17 at such facilities as Chase Nuclear (Canada) Ltd. in Arnprior, which fabricates pressure tubes for Candu reactors.

For the past nine years and during the course of three provincial general elections, I have campaigned very aggressively in my constituency in support of this very vital industry. In the course of my service here in this Legislature, it has been my pleasure to have joined with other members of the Progressive Conservative and New Democratic parties on the select committee on nuclear reactor safety as well as the select committee on nuclear waste management.

In recent months, I have had the pleasure of joining with a number of community and business leaders in the Upper Ottawa Valley in making representations to the Ontario Energy Board with respect to the future of Ontario Hydro's commitment to its campus at Rolphoton.

Members may not be aware that it was at Rolphoton some 22 years ago that Ontario Hydro,



in conjunction with Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., put in place the first nuclear power demonstrator in Canada. Unfortunately, in the recent past, the provincial utility indicated its intention to close out the Rolphton nuclear training centre, which has functioned splendidly on that campus for the past number of years.

Regrettably, we are going to see the loss of several instructor positions. More than 600 students were trained annually at that facility during the peak periods of the late 1970s. The loss of the Rolphton nuclear training centre is a very serious one to the Upper Ottawa Valley.

As I indicated earlier, I have a special relationship with this industry because some 2,800 of my constituents in Renfrew North work at the facilities at Chalk River and Rolphton. Communities such as Deep River, Pembroke and Petawawa thrive as a result of a long-standing association with this industry. The total nuclear payroll in Renfrew North exceeds \$80 million yearly.

From my point of view, and I think this is an important point of view, the Canadian nuclear industry represents an outstanding achievement in high technology. The Candu nuclear reactors are the safest and most efficient nuclear reactors in the world. Candu technology represents the happy marriage of our indigenous natural resources, especially uranium, and the best of Canadian science and engineering.

In 1982, it was estimated the Canadian nuclear industry contributed some \$4.3 billion to the national economy. Of that, some 90 per cent of the Canadian nuclear capacity was located here in Ontario. In Ontario, the nuclear industry employs some 30,000 directly, some 75 per cent of the industry's total employment, and another 50,000 indirectly through spinoff industries.

I should indicate those figures are now about two years old. It is my guess that as a result of the economic recession in the past two years, those figures probably overstate the numbers involved. One report in a Toronto newspaper indicated the number of Ontarians directly employed in the nuclear industry has fallen sharply from the 30,000 figure of the earlier period in 1982.

In addition to the employment factor, which is vital to Renfrew North and most of the rest of Ontario, our nuclear option is key because reliance on nuclear energy allows for the displacement of imported oil and coal as energy sources. This displacement not only relieves Ontario of its dependence—

**Mr. Cureatz:** Does Julian Reed know what you are saying?

**Mr. Conway:** I am pleased to note the intervention of the member for Durham East. Yes, the member for Halton-Burlington (Mr. J. A. Reed) and others in my caucus know exactly what my views are.

**Mr. Cureatz:** It sounds a little different when I listen to that here.

**10 p.m.**

**Mr. Conway:** The member for Durham East points out that there has been some criticism levelled at the industry from within the Liberal ranks, and I have to agree with him. I have been unhappy about some of the criticism that I think has been unfairly directed at an industry which is vital to my constituency and, I would argue, to the province as a whole.

I think my colleague the Liberal House leader would be the first to confirm that, within the confines of our caucus, there have been some heated debates about the nature and extent of the Ontario nuclear commitment, but I want to remind the member for Durham East that the Progressive Conservative Party in recent years has not had a united front on this count.

Later in my remarks I will be referring to some comments of some years ago by the former Treasurer, the Honourable Darcy McKeough. I will not embarrass the absent—

**Mr. Haggerty:** He knocked \$600 million off Hydro's budget.

**Mr. Conway:** I want to respond to the comments of the member for Durham East because I was in his fine community not many weeks ago discussing these very subjects with representatives of the Durham East Liberal Association.

One of the reasons I want to devote my remarks to this critical subject tonight is that, as one member of the assembly, I am concerned about what I see around me in the Ontario nuclear industry. I am concerned about some of the attacks from within my party, I will admit, and from without as well.

I feel an obligation on behalf of the good people of Renfrew North, who in large measure derive their economic livelihood from this industry, to make my views very clear, and I will continue to do so tonight.

As I was indicating, our reliance on nuclear energy allows this province to displace substantial quantities of imported oil and coal from outside Ontario and, indeed, from outside continental North America. This displacement not only relieves Ontario's dependence on



outside sources of energy, but has a favourable bearing on our balance of payments.

Clearly, there are significant benefits to Ontario and to Canada as a result of the nuclear industry. I would like to recite in more specific detail the nature and extent of the considerable benefits which accrue to Ontario as a result of our nuclear commitment.

The economic and employment benefits I mentioned earlier are dispersed over seven sectors of the nuclear industry. These sectors include uranium mining, refining and fuel fabrication, research and development, engineering and design, manufacturing and construction, operations and maintenance, and public administration.

Much of the nuclear research and development in Canada is performed by Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. This federal crown corporation has research facilities at Chalk River, Ontario, and at Whiteshell, Manitoba. AECL employs more than 3,000 people and in 1980 had budgeted something in excess of \$140 million for research and development purposes. Other organizations, such as Ontario Hydro, the Atomic Energy Control Board, Eldorado Nuclear and Hydro-Québec spent another \$20 million on research and development.

The manufacturing sector supporting Canada's nuclear industry is heavily concentrated in Ontario and Quebec. This sector supplies components for nuclear reactors such as boilers, calandria tubes and fueling machines. Approximately 100 companies are involved.

Up to 1977, total capital investment in plant and equipment for supplying the nuclear equipment industry was estimated at \$214 million. Total direct manufacturing employment in 1977 was estimated at 6,000 persons and, I reiterate, most of those 6,000 persons can be found in Ontario, although there are some in Quebec.

In the construction sector, the bulk of the work is carried out by the utilities and by construction companies. Construction costs represent about 25 per cent of total commissioned cost of a reactor and about 20 per cent of the cost of a heavy water plant. This sector employed more than 12,000 persons in 1977.

In the operations and maintenance of nuclear power stations and heavy water plants, total employment across Canada was estimated at 5,600 persons. In Ontario, there are major nuclear facilities at Douglas Point, Bruce, Darlington, Pickering, Chalk River and Rolphton. In the public administration sector, there are between 200 and 300 persons at various

levels of government involved in regulating the activities of the nuclear industry.

From that quick read-through, I hope the members get some sense of the significant impact of the nuclear industry in terms of employment here in Ontario. I should indicate these are not just jobs. These are jobs in high technology, in the professions.

I will reiterate something I said in this House about 10 days ago. I am sure the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Kolyn) will remember it. For me the great attraction of the Canadian nuclear achievement has been in that very area of high technology, where it has established a research and development orientation that has brought together the very best of Canadian science and engineering.

Listening to a lot of the experts, whether they were economists or with the Science Council of Canada or elsewhere, I thought this area of high technology, of greater emphasis on research and development, was the way of the future for Ontario. I thought it was the next generation of economic and employment opportunity. Quite frankly, it puzzles me and a lot of my constituents to see a world-class success such as Candu nuclear technology so constantly attacked for the very reason that it has been apparently—and in my view, demonstrably—a very great success indeed.

We have been able to export significant aspects of this nuclear technology to the rest of the world. Quite frankly—

**Mr. Cureatz:** I do not believe my ears.

**Mr. Conway:** The member for Durham East says he cannot believe his ears. I just invite him to stick around.

**Mr. Cureatz:** I have been there with the select committee, remember?

**Mr. Conway:** I certainly well remember being at the select committee, perhaps not for as long as the member for Durham East. However, as a member for the area where the nuclear industry was born in this country 40 years ago, I would like to reiterate the very significant achievements this industry has made in the areas of research and development. Quite frankly, I think we have to reinforce that direction in the future and not attack it.

**Mr. Cureatz:** I do not believe it. This is great.

**Mr. Conway:** I would say to the member for Durham East this does not mean I am an uncritical observer of the way Ontario Hydro has gone about its business. I am, for example, a strong supporter of the development of electricity



through hydroelectric plants. In my county 10 to 12 years ago, Ontario Hydro built a \$70-million facility near the great town of Arnprior. Not everything about the way Ontario Hydro went about its business in that development pleased me and I pointed out my criticisms to the utility.

**Mr. Cureatz:** What about the Rolls-Royce? I want to hear about the Rolls-Royce.

**Hon. F. S. Miller:** Was there not an investigation about that?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The member for Renfrew North has the floor.

**Mr. Conway:** I am not prepared to give uncritical support to any venture. I happen to think the atomic industry in this country can stand on its own feet and defend its very considerable record. I am not pleased about that record in every particular. I have indicated my dissent, both within this Legislature and without. I have accepted a fair measure of criticism within my constituency, and outside, for that view.

I am not ashamed to say to this House that my support is not uncritical, but we face an uncertain future in the Ontario nuclear industry today. As I indicated in the earlier part of my remarks, we are losing jobs in the industry today in communities all across Ontario. The member for Cambridge (Mr. Barlow) is not here but I am sure he could tell us about some of the problems the industry faces in his area of the province where, if my memory is correct, a number of the component factories are located.

**10:10 p.m.**

One of the concerns I have is about the length of the uncertainty. We have now gone through a period of two or three years where uncertainty has continued to mount. We know, for example, the industry faces difficulties as a result of a significant slowdown in the demand for electricity. We know, unfortunately, international markets are softer than we would like and that within a soft international marketplace the competition is fierce. We have to face that reality.

Unfortunately, we know the costs of nuclear power have escalated rather significantly in the past number of years. That escalation has been explained by virtue of the increased costs of borrowings. As we know, the nuclear industry is capital intensive, in terms of building reactors at any rate. We know as well the cost of regulation has added to the cost of electricity produced by nuclear means in this province and that conservation programs, which have been aggressively advanced by governments such as the provincial

government in Ontario, have had their role to play in reducing demand. The recession I mentioned earlier and the oil glut we have all experienced since about 1980-81 are factors that have contributed to a growing uncertainty within the Canadian nuclear industry.

In that connection, I thought it might be useful to review a document produced by the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, published in 1982, entitled *Nuclear Industry Review, Problems and Prospects 1981-2000*. In the conclusion of that EMR publication, a number of observations are made. I would like to touch on those, quoting from page 56, chapter 12 of that study.

"Prospects for the Canadian Nuclear Industry: Summary and Conclusions. From 1964 to 1978, the Canadian nuclear industry sold 24 reactor units (including research and power reactors), an order rate of almost two units per year. In contrast, since 1978 there have been no firm orders. The industry is therefore facing an indeterminate period of excess capacity, its future clouded by uncertainty regarding the timing and magnitude of the next round of orders. The outlook for the industry depends upon its domestic and export sales prospects."

If I might digress, I was chatting the other day with some people at the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources about this document. Two years after its publication, at least one of the authors suggested there is not a great deal about this they would now change. There have been some alterations. One of the comments made to me was that, if anything, export markets appear softer than was discussed at the time of this publication.

About the domestic market, the EMR study noted the following. "Most provincial utilities currently have excess capacity and will require few additions to capacity, beyond those currently under construction, for a decade or more. However, most forecasts indicate new generating capacity will be required in the 1990s. Nuclear energy is an economically attractive option for meeting part of this load growth. Because of long lead times, orders will need to be placed in the 1980s for capacity additions required in the 1990s. The big uncertainties are the number and timing of future nuclear orders in relation to the nuclear industry's capacity.

"The market for Candu in Canada in this century will likely be confined to Ontario, the Maritimes and possibly Quebec. Depending on the coal-nuclear mix chosen by the province and the rate of electrical demand growth ultimately



realized, Ontario could choose to build no new reactors beyond Darlington, relying entirely on coal, or decide to meet load growth exclusively with nuclear energy and require as many as six post-Darlington reactors to 2000."

The prospects in Quebec, the report goes on to indicate, are minimal. I gather they are no greater today than was indicated in the study two years ago. Prospects in the west do not appear to be very attractive either.

I want to touch quickly on a couple of the other points the conclusion of the EMR study indicates. "The range of uncertainty is, therefore, large." They are talking now about the state of the domestic markets in the provinces and accepting that international markets are going to be softer than we would all like.

"It is arithmetically possible that as many as 12 reactor units may be required to meet domestic load growth this century. More realistically, up to seven reactor units will be required, coming on stream in the 1990s. If the upper end of this range were realized, it should be possible to sustain a rationalized industry."

I would like to digress for a moment. One of the things that is costing jobs in the nuclear industry—in communities like your home community of Peterborough, Mr. Speaker—has to do with a rationalization currently under way in the nuclear industry. In the 1960s and 1970s we developed a two-supplier industry in which there were at least two suppliers for most, if not all, the components required for the Candu technology.

The report I cite from now, the 1982 EMR study, seems to accept there is going to be and there probably should be a shakedown and a rationalization to a more efficient—it argues, or would have one believe at least—one-supplier, rationalized industry. That is going to cost and is now costing jobs in this province.

"What is certain, however, is that the situation over the next few years will be critical for the industry. Given excess capacity being experienced by domestic utilities, domestic orders in the early to mid-1980s will likely be nonexistent on the basis of the domestic market alone. Virtually all firms in the industry could go out of business by the mid-to-late 1980s, thereby foreclosing the capability of the industry to meet the next round of orders in the late 1980s."

This is a very important point. We have developed an exceptional capacity in this high technology. I think everyone accepts that we are in a very deep and worrisome trough at the present time. There is reasonable expectation

that some time in the latter half of the next decade there are going to be additional requirements. That is 10 to 12 years away and, as the authors of the report and most people understand, there are lead times of at least eight to 10 years. So we have to be prepared in the mid-to-late 1980s to commit ourselves to new reactors if we want to have them on stream by the late 1990s.

The great challenge we face today is how to keep this industry, if we want it—and I want it—alive through these difficult days and years so it can be ready and able to supply the orders we hope will be forthcoming at some point in the future.

The EMR study goes on, "Under these circumstances, the export market over the next few years becomes extremely important because it offers the best prospect of a nearer-term sale which would reduce somewhat the industry's short-term problems of excess supply."

Unfortunately, the report goes on to suggest that the export market is going to be very tough and competitive indeed.

I wanted to cite the report; it makes for very interesting reading. In 1982, it suggests an electrical load growth in Ontario of something in the neighbourhood of three to three and a half per cent per year for the remaining years of this century.

I note on the very important question of increases in the demand for electricity that as late as December 1983 Ontario Hydro produced new load growth forecasts for the rest of this century indicating that EMR in 1982 was probably too generous and from Hydro's calculations it expects electrical load growth in the remaining years of the 20th century will increase at an annual rate of something in the neighbourhood of 2.3 to 2.5 per cent. That is substantially below the historical six and seven per cent rate increases we experienced during the boom years of the 1960s and much of the 1970s.

I noted just the other day, by the way, as reported in the *Globe and Mail* of Monday, April 2, that EMR in Ottawa now has new, much more optimistic forecasts of electrical load growth for Ontario which indicate that Hydro in December 1983 probably underestimated the load growth by 100 per cent. EMR is now saying that, instead of Hydro's 2.3 per cent, the annual increase in electrical demand is going to be 4.5 per cent.

**10:20 p.m.**

We all know predicting these very complicated questions of electrical load growth is an inexact science, but we have to understand the



industry is at a critical juncture. If we are going to protect it, and it must be protected, as I indicated earlier, we must be prepared to look at ways and means of carrying it through these very difficult days in the mid-1980s.

I know my friend the member for Durham East would want me to comment on the very important question of Darlington. Darlington is a critical aspect of this whole debate. As responsible members of the Legislature, we are faced with a very difficult situation. I have indicated in North Renfrew and Durham East that Darlington ought not to be proceeded with until there is a better case for the demand of its product.

**Mr. Cureatz:** The Liberal candidate did not say that at the last election.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Conway:** I want to make it very clear that I have said in Durham East and in North Renfrew that I am concerned about the financial implications of proceeding with Darlington now, when clearly its power may not be required for many years to come. I know that is perhaps not the most popular position for me to adopt in my constituency—

**Mr. Cureatz:** Darlington is not being built in your constituency.

**Mr. Conway:** The member for Durham East makes the point that Darlington is not being built in my constituency. I say to the member in whose riding it is being constructed that the people in my riding see a very direct link with the construction of Darlington. What I have to tried to indicate on a number of occasions is that there are very important financial considerations that all responsible members of this assembly have to take into account.

I worry very much about the provincial utility going forward to borrow \$10 billion to put on stream additional electrical capacity for which we do not appear to have a requirement for many years to come. However, I would be the first to reconsider that if I could be persuaded that by the speeding up of Darlington we would get the industry that concerns me so very much through these very troubled years. I am not yet persuaded of that, but I remain open to persuasion.

I suggest the select committee on Ontario Hydro affairs be reconstituted immediately to investigate the current state of the Ontario nuclear industry, to see exactly what its present health is and what its options are for the next few years. If members opposite can persuade me the only way to carry this vital industry, which I want

to see supported and maintained through these difficult years, is to continue with Darlington, I am quite prepared to reconsider the issue.

I have indicated, and I want to reiterate, that this industry, which has given Canadians a world-class achievement in high technology and which has brought together some extraordinary capacity in science and engineering, must not be allowed to go the way of the Avro Arrow. One of my associates growing up in small-town eastern Ontario was the test pilot for Avro, and he often used to talk about the situation as he felt it some 20 years ago when another government, in another place, wound down that particular commitment.

I want to conclude my remarks by indicating that I feel very strongly that we as a Legislature must go forward in a prudent and responsible way in developing an energy policy for this province that will take into account the very considerable achievements and capacity of our nuclear industry.

I do not believe our sole destiny should be a nuclear destiny. I think we should have an energy policy built on the concept of an accountable public utility producing economic, efficient electrical power from a balanced mix. Unlike some in my party, I am quite prepared to support a very considerable reliance on the nuclear option, and it will be my job within the confines of the Liberal caucus to continue to advocate the attractiveness of the nuclear option.

Interjection.

**Mr. Conway:** I will leave it to my friend the member for Durham East to battle with his friends. I know they have opinions very different from his on some of these issues.

I want to say, not only on my own behalf but also on behalf of the almost 3,000 people it is my pleasure to represent in North Renfrew who work in and live by the nuclear industry, that we are concerned about the constant attack on this industry. We feel very strongly we have made in North Renfrew, through this industry, a great achievement available to the people of Canada. We think that achievement ought to be supported responsibly and prudently, not uncritically. We do not feel, at the Chalk River nuclear laboratories or at Rolphton, that we cannot defend the main thrust of our commitment. We are prepared to do so. My friends in the industry at home have engaged me in quite an active debate on a number of occasions and we have not always agreed on all aspects of the debate.

In conclusion, it is important for me to state for



the record, as one member of this assembly from an eastern Ontario riding wherein this industry is vital, that I support the industry and want to see its future protected and guaranteed. I am quite prepared and would encourage my friends across the way to reconvene the select committee on Ontario Hydro affairs so this Legislature can immediately go forward and look into the current state of that industry and how it might be provided for in the current climate and with future prospects. I, for one, stand ready and willing to engage in that kind of debate.

I feel very strongly about this subject. It is one I will continue to monitor both here and within the confines of my own political party, where I reiterate there is not unanimity and where I must unhappily report that at some conferences, and sometimes even in this House, things are said that do not represent my view and in some cases annoy me, as I know I sometimes annoy some of my colleagues with some of my views on other subjects.

I want to resume my seat by saying that this is a vital, major and positive industry located in large measure in Ontario, providing reliable and safe electrical energy, employing tens of thousands of people from Elliot Lake to Port Hope and from Mississauga to Rolphton; it is an industry that must be protected so it can carry on and take us into the next generation of employment, economic and energy opportunity.

On motion by Mr. Samis, the debate was adjourned.

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, just before you adjourn, may I indicate the business of the House for the coming week.

We will continue with debate on the throne speech tomorrow morning.

On Monday, April 9, we will conclude this debate, with the vote to be called at 5:45 p.m.

On Tuesday, April 10, in the afternoon and evening, legislation will be debated in the following order: Bills 1, 100, 122, 123 and 18, standing in the name of the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry).

In the evening, if time still remains, second reading and committee of the whole on Bills 4, 5, 6, 11 and 12, standing in the name of the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (Mr. Elgie).

On Wednesday, April 11, the usual three committees may meet in the morning.

On Thursday, April 12, in the afternoon, private members' ballot items standing in the names of the member for York Centre (Mr. Cousens) and the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt). In the evening, we will have committee of the whole debate on motions to adopt the recommendations in the 10th report of the select committee on the Ombudsman and the recommendations in the special report of the committee respecting political violence.

On Friday, April 13, we will continue legislation that was not completed on Tuesday.

The House adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

## ERRATA

No.	Page	Column	Line	Should read:
11	344	1	50	<b>Hon. Mr. Davis:</b> Mr. Speaker, while I am on my feet, I have a
12	401	1	53	The members' ploughing

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# **Hansard**

# **Official Report of Debates**

## Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Friday, April 6, 1984

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Friday, April 6, 1984

The House met at 10 a.m.

Prayers.

## GRANGE COMMISSION INQUIRY

**Mr. Sargent:** Mr. Speaker, the first order of business calls for statements by the ministry. It is time the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) made a statement to stop the witchhunt depicted this morning in the *Toronto Sun*. The nursing profession in my lifetime has had a high image, but it is being destroyed by this disgusting spectacle going on today. The Attorney General should call the whole deal off.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you.

## PARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE

**Mr. Speaker:** I have a ruling I would like to share with all members.

Following the discussion yesterday respecting the question of one member accusing another member of lying or making a statement which is untrue and the reference that was made to the incident of last Tuesday, April 3, during the speech of the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel), I have carefully examined the Hansard report of that incident.

The whole first portion of the member for Sudbury East's speech was with reference to a letter signed by Gerry M. Loughheed Jr., president of the Sudbury Progressive Conservative Association. The statement the member for Sudbury East referred to as being untrue was a statement contained in that letter, not made by the member for Sudbury (Mr. Gordon). Therefore, it was not a case of one member accusing another member of an untruth.

I have also carefully read the statement of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) yesterday and the reply of the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid). It appears clear to me that when the minister used the phrase "rather than treating this as a committee matter, the honourable member has used it for the purpose of questioning the integrity of Dr. Wolfson, both in the House and with the media," he was in fact imputing an improper motive to another member.

Furthermore, in the phrase used by the member for Rainy River in his reply, "I believe some of the statements he has made are blatantly

untrue," I suggest the use of the word "blatantly" makes it clear that the member was accusing the minister of a deliberate falsehood.

I must therefore ask both the minister and the member for Rainy River to withdraw the two statements I have cited.

However, having said that, and having carefully read the relevant incident in Hansard and standing order 19(d)10, which states that it is out of order if a member charges another member with uttering a deliberate falsehood, it appears to me that the member for Ottawa East (Mr. Roy) has raised a very valid point.

While there is no doubt that one member may not say to another member, "You are a liar" or "That is a lie," if he simply says, "That is untrue," it seems to me after due consideration that in the latter case it depends entirely on the context. If it is said in such a way as to imply that the member has committed a deliberate falsehood, then it is, of course, out of order. But I can conceive of occasions when one member may be referring to information which he has received and another member says, "That is untrue." He may be simply disagreeing with the statement without intending to imply that the other member is uttering a deliberate falsehood. When this expression is used, it is, in my opinion, a matter of judgement by the Speaker as to the context in which the allegation is made.

Unfortunately, the member for Rainy River is not here, but I would ask the Minister of Labour to consider what I have said, and perhaps he would wish to withdraw his statement.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I have no hesitation in rising to withdraw it if you feel such is required. Certainly I had no intention to malign the honourable member in my remarks. In fact, I read the statement very carefully on several occasions, and it was revised numerous times before we came to a final draft, simply because I wanted to be extremely careful that we did not malign anyone. So I have no hesitation whatsoever in withdrawing my remarks.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### COMMUNITY JUSTICE WEEK

**Hon. Mr. Walker:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to remind all members that next week, from April



8 to 14, many communities throughout Ontario will be recognizing Community Justice Week with its special focus on the theme, "Justice for Victims: Let's Care and Share."

In this province we are beginning to witness a growing concern for the special plight of crime victims. The Community Justice Week message reflects this underlying concern. The victim justice movement reminds us all that victims have needs, rights and feelings that must seek expression and must be served.

Those who perpetrate crimes have traditionally had their rights clearly articulated and secured. Offenders can find an abundance of safeguards for their rights at every stage of the justice process. They have been ascribed a central role in our criminal justice system, and rightly so.

Justice week this year will emphasize the rights and needs of victims. Too often we have heard of victims and their families being overlooked or neglected at the time of crisis. The victim justice movement is seeking to rectify this situation.

Victims need information about the justice system and about the disposition of their cases. They may need guidance on how to use the justice system, and they may need support and understanding in coping with the after-effects of crime.

Community Justice Week 1984 is an opportunity for educational outreach at the community level in support of the victim justice movement. As a stimulus for building this new awareness and support, the Justice secretariat has encouraged community participation in local initiatives such as public forums, seminars or workshops, displays at schools, malls and libraries and other educational events. The secretariat has also developed promotional posters and brochures and will be providing province-wide media support to assist community efforts.

All citizens in this province have a role to play in the pursuit of justice. During Community Justice Week we celebrate the work of professionals and volunteers alike who are helping to promote public understanding of justice rights and services and of the need to make justice for all a co-operative, shared responsibility.

10:10 a.m.

#### CULTURAL AWARDS

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Mr. Speaker, this week the Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists saluted members of the television and radio profession. I am sure my colleagues will be pleased to note that Dinah Christie, one of

the stars of the performing arts Bicentennial Showcase, won a Nellie for best variety performer of the year.

Last week two other major cultural events of note took place: World Theatre Day celebrations and the fifth annual Canadian Black Music Awards.

The Canadian Black Music Awards has grown in size and prestige over the past five years. At the awards many talented artists were honoured, both established and emerging. Of special significance, I believe, was the honour bestowed upon singer-songwriter Dan Hill, one of Canada's internationally acclaimed artists. Dan Hill was named to the award's Hall of Fame, along with Geraldine Hunt and Jo Jo Bennett.

On Tuesday, March 27, I had the distinct privilege of introducing the Honourable Pauline McGibbon at World Theatre Day Celebrations. Dr. McGibbon presented the award established in her name by the government of Ontario in 1981.

This award, administered by the Ontario Arts Council, acknowledges the contribution of a designer, a director and a production technician in a three-year cyclical format. This being a fourth year, the cycle began again and a designer was honoured. The recipient of this year's Pauline McGibbon Award was Debra Hanson. This award consists of \$5,000 from the province and a medal from the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

There were two other awards presented during this event, the Vic Polley Award and the Silver Ticket Award. All three recipients were women. It is apparent to me that women are being recognized for the increasing part they have come to play in the theatrical profession.

Art reflects life and the Canadian Black Music Awards, World Theatre Day Celebrations and the ACTRA Awards mirror the emerging self-confidence of Canadian artists. I am sure all honourable members will join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards and all those involved in making the events such successes.

#### ORAL QUESTIONS

##### UNEMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier about unemployment in this province. He has no doubt been briefed on the appalling statistics that have been revealed this morning about Ontario's performance with respect to unemployment. He will also recall that in the throne speech not long ago there was a proud claim that Ontario led the recovery in 1983.



However, the statistics revealed this morning by Statistics Canada show that Ontario is now leading the Canadian decline in terms of unemployment. Unemployment in Ontario rose by 14,000 to 434,000 from February to March but fell by 10,000 in the other nine provinces. Ontario's poor performance pulled the national average down.

My question to the Premier is this: Why will he not introduce immediately programs to arrest this very disturbing decline in our economic performance in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, if one looks at the figures and analyses them carefully, no province has had the rate of recovery of this province. While we are concerned with respect to the unemployment statistics, it is also fair to state that several thousand more people were employed in March 1984 than in March 1983.

**Mr. Laughren:** Nonsense.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It is true.

If we look at the statistics, we see some encouraging signs with respect to the area of youth unemployment. While we are concerned, the fact is that Ontario has led the recovery. Obviously there are still problems the government will be addressing, but there are some problems the private sector has to address as well in its own way.

The honourable member can use all the hyperbole he wishes. He can trot out all the White Swan and Scott tissues statistics as he did yesterday. The reality is that this province is making progress in economic terms, not necessarily because of the government, although I think we have played some small part in it.

**Mr. Peterson:** The performance with respect to unemployment and youth unemployment is dismal. Youth unemployment figures have gone from 163,000 to 183,000, which is a jump of fully 1.7 per cent in the rate. Those are the facts.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** The Premier will recall his famous speech when he raised great expectations at, I believe, the Empire Club not long ago. He said, "Indeed, we must ask ourselves what we are going to do about one of the most insidious hoops through which society forces young people to jump—no jobs for the inexperienced and no jobs in which to gain that experience."

My question is a simple one. What is the Premier going to do about that insidious hoop?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** The Leader of the Opposition asked exactly the same questions a week or 10 days ago, if my memory serves me correctly,

and in almost exactly the same terms. I am delighted to know that he was so impressed by my speech to the Empire Club. He is not always that complimentary about the speeches I make, but I certainly have mentally made note of the fact that he thought this was tremendous.

My recollection is that I said to the Leader of the Opposition on that occasion that the government would be addressing this problem. We have been addressing it with programs that we think are relevant and logical, and we will be dealing with this more extensively when the budget of this province is introduced.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, in November, in the government's prebudget paper, the Premier assured Ontario that the recovery was well under way. He talked about jobs being regained, stronger consumer spending, increases in machinery and equipment spending and strong housing starts.

Once again, our unemployment rate has surpassed 10 per cent. For youth, the rate is between 15 and 19 per cent and is rapidly approaching 20 per cent. Even more important, forecasters are now talking about weak consumer spending, falling disposable income, a fall in investment spending, plummeting housing starts and the threat of increased interest rates.

There is a fear out there, an insecurity in terms of jobs, and the Premier cannot afford to stall the budget any longer. Why is this House back with no business on the order paper? Why is the budget not brought in so we can see whether it is going to add to that insecurity or start dealing with the insecurity that is out there in the public?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, the programs which we think have been helpful to the recovery are obviously still in place. The budget will be coming in the relatively near future. I have not analysed the figures perhaps as carefully as the honourable member, but my recollection is that the seasonally adjusted rate has not exceeded 10 per cent; it is 9.4 per cent.

**Mr. Peterson:** The Premier has a good memory for things that he thinks serve his interests, but he has no understanding of the real figures in this province.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Peterson:** He just selectively quotes stuff if he thinks it is going to serve his purpose, when he does not have any understanding. I just never cease to be amazed how he—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Peterson:** Let us look at the real figures. In Sudbury, unemployment is up by 3,000 over last month; in London, it is up by more than



3,000 over last month; in Hamilton, it is up by more than 4,000 over last month; in Thunder Bay, it is up 1,000; and in Windsor, it is up by more than 5,000. Those are real figures.

Why wait for the artificial date of a budget, the timing of which has nothing to do with addressing the real problems? Given the fact that his Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) has responded in this House on other occasions, under intense pressure from the opposition, with increasing funding, as he did on the Ontario career action program some time ago, why can the Premier not respond now to reverse this horrible change in direction that is going on in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I will predict with all the accuracy I can muster that when the budget is introduced, the same member who is urging massive expenditures will be berating the Treasurer of this province on the size of the deficit.

He says I am selective. He says things in different parts of this province on single issues that are totally different from place to place. He comes to us and urges more spending, and then he goes out and preaches to the Young Presidents' Organization or his other select group that we are spending too much. He cannot have it both ways.

**Mr. Peterson:** The Premier really is silly. If he wants to stand up in this House and tell us what they are doing rather than these vague insinuations, let him go ahead and do it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** He is talking out of two sides of his mouth. He is a master.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Peterson:** Let me address the Treasurer, Mr. Speaker. The Treasurer will recall many discussions on the issue of unemployment, and youth unemployment specifically, in this province. He will recall that, from our vantage point, we have attempted to address this problem in very specific and concrete ways with programs which we think would go a long way towards solving these problems. I want to refresh his memory about some of his responses to our entreaties at those times.

**10:20 a.m.**

On October 27, for example, he said, "I have indicated several times that a good part of the exercise will commence with our fall economic statement leading up to our spring budget that will be focused on that need"—that is, youth unemployment. Still we had no action. He went on to say, "First, let us understand that the employment picture in Ontario is improving significantly and dramatically." He was clearly

under the impression that things were getting better, not worse.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** On December 9, he said: "Youth unemployment is still too high at 14.7 per cent, but it is not twice the level. In addition, we have had some employment growth in jobs for young people in the last 12 months." In fact, the rate is up, and any trend that looked a little bit optimistic in the past has now been reversed.

Given the changes that are going on internationally as well as in this country, it is difficult to look ahead with a great deal of optimism with respect to employment prospects for young people. Will the Treasurer now introduce specific programs to address this problem rather than waiting for a month or two or whenever his budget is coming down?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, I have the opportunity once in a while to read some of the remarks made around the province by the Leader of the Opposition. I see in one of his speeches some time last year—

**Mr. Bradley:** What is the minister going to do? He is the Treasurer.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** This is the answer to the question. My friend has not heard it; how does he know?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** When did he become the leader of the party?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Will the Treasurer please address himself to the question.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The Leader of the Opposition himself has pointed out on occasion that there are "no traditional quick fixes to address what is really a structural, long-term economic dilemma." I want to associate myself with those remarks of the Leader of the Opposition. In fact, I suggest the Leader of the Opposition associate himself with the very same remarks he made.

When we talk about structural, long-term economic dilemmas, we have to keep in mind that a budget brought in next week as opposed to three or four weeks from today is not going to change the dynamics of a structural, long-term economic dilemma. To those who believe in quick fixes, there would be some sense to saying, "We will just bring in a budget tomorrow afternoon and that will solve all the problems." However, even the Leader of the Opposition knows that is not the case, and even he knows the prudent thing for a government to do is to take its time in developing its budget policies because the economic problems that are reflected in the



figures we are talking about this morning are long-term structural problems, to use the member's own words.

Prudent governments will not knee-jerk to political needs but will take time to develop proper long-term economic policy. By the way, that is what will be in the budget, not the kind of short-term, very expensive political quick fixes the member has been advocating for the last few months.

**Mr. Peterson:** I wish the Treasurer would read all my speeches and he would be a little more enlightened than he is at the moment. I remind him that he and his administration have been around for 40 years and that the long-term structural problem is the problem of the government being around too long, if he wants to know the truth.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** There are very specific things that can be done in the short term, in the medium term and in the long term. The Treasurer does not have a fix on any one of them, let alone an understanding of the problem.

Let me put this in very specific and human terms. A young man named Vincent Benjamin came to me with 268 letters of rejection. He is a college graduate, a bright and able young man. He was on unemployment insurance and this week he is moving on to welfare because he has no prospects.

What is the Treasurer going to do for him and thousands of others like him, particularly when the Premier in his famous speech is concerned about the cynicism that this kind of phenomenon creates in our society?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** First, if we are going to talk about the long-term structural problems and we want to talk about structural performance, as the member invites us to, let us look at what has happened over the past year.

In all of Canada, one of the great measures of structural strength is the number of full-time jobs that have been recovered from the depths of the recession to today. What we find is that while all the rest of Canada has recovered only 20 per cent of the full-time jobs lost during the recession, in Ontario 75 per cent of all of the full-time jobs lost have been recovered.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Members can talk about those figures, and they are important. In measuring the structural strength of our economy, that measure of recovery of full-time jobs,

which reflects 75 per cent in Ontario and 20 per cent in all of the rest of Canada, is perhaps one of the most important and significant measures of the long-term economic strength in this province, which, I might say, did not accidentally arrive here over the past 40 years. It arrived because we had a government that did not go for silly, quick fixes such as the member advocates on a regular basis. It built a strong and diversified economy here which has allowed that recovery to occur.

That is what we are going to continue to do in spite of the member's invitation to spend, as he has advocated we do, \$100 million to create 14,000 jobs when last year we spent \$100 million to create 100,000 jobs.

Finally, might I recommend, so the member will know how to handle his—

**Mr. Peterson:** Do you want me to lie on my back and be trampled over?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The Leader of the Opposition should not do that. It could be dangerous to his health.

In regard to the question he raised about a particular constituent, has he suggested to his constituent that he go to a youth employment counselling centre, of which there are 30, or is he opposed to those?

Interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** I want to leave that on the record and say that the youth employment counselling centres are something the Leader of the Opposition has said he supports. He went down to the Youth Employment Service, one of the best ones in the province, and embarrassed himself when they said they did not like his programs. They are laughing today at the suggestion that this person whom he cares about should go to a youth employment counselling centre. Which way is the Leader of the Opposition going today?

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question of the Treasurer. I believe he will be aware that a considerable amount of money has been put into Sudbury in the last couple of years for short-term, make-work projects. Is he aware of the figures, according to the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, showing that in the first 10 months of 1984 8,800 people are going to be exhausting their unemployment insurance benefits?

This is one of the reasons we anticipate welfare costs in Sudbury will be in the neighbourhood of \$11 million in 1984. Since the federal govern-



ment is 'playing games with its job creation money, could the Treasurer tell us what plans he has for the regional municipality of Sudbury to ease some of that problem of 8,800 people going off UIC benefits for 1984?

Further, what plans does he have for long-term job creation projects in the Sudbury area?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, in response to that very important question, might I say my colleague the member for Sudbury (Mr. Gordon) invited me to Sudbury several months ago to meet with a variety of people from the area. We met with municipal leaders, the chamber of commerce and the unions. In my view, it was a very constructive meeting at which many suggestions were put forward. The member's question reflects many of those suggestions in terms of the kinds of programs that might be initiated in that area.

I wish I had the letter here, but as recently as yesterday I received a hand-written letter from the member for Sudbury urging us to consider those kinds of special programs for the area. As we come up towards the budget, I can assure the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren) that if there is an opportunity to help out some communities in a fiscally responsible way, then we will take into account the very excellent meeting that was arranged for us in Sudbury and the views of my colleague the member for Sudbury.

**10:30 a.m.**

I thank the member for his question. It will help continue to build up the strength behind the very sensible and responsible views put forward to us by the regional chairman, the chamber of commerce and the unions. I thank the member and, of course, I thank my colleague the member for Sudbury.

**Mr. Peterson:** The Treasurer and his colleague the Premier have used a variety of excuses to ignore the problem, either not understanding or not doing anything. "Wait for the recovery," they say.

I do not know whether the Treasurer is aware of the decline in housing starts, the rise in interest rates of autos and other things that are very disturbing signs in regard to whether the recovery is real and how strong it is going to be. Those are realities, some of which are reflected in the figures of today. If we look ahead, it is our view we need a number of responses.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** My question to the Treasurer is with respect to the Premier's response that the

private sector has to help. Denison Mines got an interest-free \$280-million loan from Ontario Hydro, and we are now paying at least double or triple the world price to the company for uranium. The world price is around \$17, and who knows what they are getting; \$50 or \$60 a pound from Hydro. Of course, the Premier knows this, but they are very close friends. He probably negotiated the whole thing. He is very aware of the situation.

Does the Treasurer think it is fair that Denison, which is getting those kinds of advantages from a crown agency, would hire no students this summer? Is the private sector doing its share? Is the government using its influence with people who are working on government contracts to make sure they are doing their fair share to reduce youth unemployment? Where is the great response the Premier talks about in the private sector?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The member may choose to attack the private sector during this recovery; he may think that is sensible. As is always the case, everyone in our society has to take some responsibility and, as I have said in many of my speeches, show some courage during this recovery phase. In doing that, the member should be a little more accurate.

Every economic forecaster who has been in to see us in a budget consultation process of about 52 meetings has suggested housing starts in Ontario still appear to be leading Canada. It appears we will have the best increase in years. The auto industry is running at its all-time high right now. The member's colleagues from Windsor could have told him that. So the two sectors he mentions in particular are performing at least as strongly as even we predicted in December, if not more strongly. Let us not suggest there is a big slowdown or the recovery has been stopped.

**Mr. Peterson:** I am not suggesting that.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The member did suggest that. In his question, he said quite directly there had been a slowdown in housing starts and a slowdown in the auto industry. Both those statements, with respect, are factually incorrect. All those involved in both of those industries reported to us as recently as last week that those figures are solid. The recovery is there. They are not concerned. We will lead Canada in both of those areas; the auto sector particularly strongly. That is the reality within which the member wants to attack the private sector.

I have discussed these questions and put to the private sector our need to have it undertake more



and more of the summer jobs situation. The reality is many companies are saying to us and to their workers and their shareholders that their job now in large measure is to deal with a situation where they can build up enough resources to reinvest in the economy. Americans have reinvested more quickly than we have.

Their job now is to try to clean up the balance sheet and run as lean and tight an operation as they can, so they have some profits put away to reinvest in the new plant and equipment we need to undertake a structural long-term economic transformation. That is what it is all about.

That is not a totally adequate answer but it does indicate we cannot stand up and frivolously say: "Now that you are trying to get through the recovery and you are trying to reinvest, just spin out hundreds of millions of dollars. It is so easy, and it will solve our problem." I have to say it will not.

The other thing I have to say is that if we pretend by taking our young people and getting them jobs filing pieces of paper we are solving what I consider to be a long-term training and educational problem, we are fooling ourselves. The kinds of jobs we want to get for our young people are jobs that are needed, where they will learn something and where they will get some supervision and some training. That is precisely what we are going to do.

#### REBATES FROM ILLEGAL RENTS

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, we will come to back to that issue in a moment, but first I would like to ask the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations a question about illegal rents and the Rent Recovery Service.

Since the minister has been busy investigating the Rent Recovery Service after I raised the concern back in December, I wonder if the minister would share the results of his investigation with this House. Specifically, can he tell us whether his investigator discovered that the owner of the Rent Recovery Service, who collects illegal rents on behalf of tenants and charges 50 per cent of the illegal rent rebate as a fee, boasts that he has undertaken 300 cases of illegal rents, has recovered \$300,000 in illegal rents and has charged a fee of approximately \$150,000 to tenants?

Has the minister discovered this in the course of his investigation, and what has he discovered?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, as of the last memorandum I had on this, dated April 2, the investigation was still under way, so I am not yet

able to report to the member or to this House on the matter at this time.

**Mr. McClellan:** Speed does not appear to be one of the minister's characteristics, since his royal commission is proceeding at about the same pace as this ministerial investigation.

Has the minister's investigator given him any interim reports? Has his investigator bothered to ask the Residential Tenancy Commission to confirm what it told us, that the proprietor of the Rent Recovery Service has undertaken 194 rent rebate applications before the commission?

Further, has he advised the minister that the proprietor of this service is in the habit of doing what amounts to plea bargaining? In other words, he settles out of court with landlords, obtains a partial rebate of illegal rents charged and charges a fee accordingly, thereby completely subverting the process. As the minister will be aware, there will then be no record that the illegal rent has been charged and the landlord will be quite free to continue to charge illegal rents to some victim in the future.

Is the minister aware of this practice, and how does he feel about private enterprise administration of justice in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I really cannot add to the remark I have already made, namely, that the investigation is still under way, but I do find it intriguing that the member has chosen to comment on the speed or lack of speed of various matters that go on in this ministry. I recall vividly that last year I was accused of moving quickly in a heavy-handed way, and now I am accused of not moving quickly enough in some branches of it.

I have to say very frankly and very personally that I resent the implications in the member's preliminary remarks with respect to the Thom commission, for reasons he well understands.

**Mr. McClellan:** I am sorry the minister is so resentful, but he promised the report for early January and here we are in early April, a year and a half after the commission was appointed to look at the urgent matter of illegal rents and the establishment of a rent registry.

Will the minister give us a commitment now to end the free enterprise administration of justice in this province? Will he give us a commitment to enforce the rent review legislation, which is currently a farce? Eighty to 85 per cent of the high-rises that the Rent Recovery Service investigates, according to the proprietor, are charging illegal rents.

Will he give us a commitment to set up an active rent registry that monitors rents, investi-



gates complaints on behalf of tenants and undertakes prosecutions to obtain rebates of illegal rents in order to end, perhaps, the free enterprise administration of justice in this province? Will he give us that commitment here today?

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** What did you say, Mr. Premier? Do you want to answer this?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** No.

**Mr. McClellan:** Do you want to buy shares in the company?

**Mr. Mackenzie:** It is a great profit-maker.

**Mr. McClellan:** Great small business.

10:40 a.m.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I have indicated very clearly that the Rent Recovery Service the member referred to is being reviewed by the business practices division. I think the member is totally out of order when he makes inappropriate comments with respect to the commission and with respect to the activities of the inquiry into the Residential Tenancies Act.

I think it is difficult enough today to attract capable, talented people to do things for government, to draw them from the private sector. I think the approach the member is taking does a disservice to him, to the people of this province and to this Legislature by making these kinds of ridiculous accusations.

#### PLANT SHUTDOWNS

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Treasurer, if I can get his attention for a minute. The Treasurer will recall responding on Monday to our concerns about the treatment of workers and plant closures. He will understand it is not just the lack of new jobs being created that concerns us, but the tremendous number of jobs we are losing in Ontario.

He will recall telling us: "So long as this sort of thing is occurring, so long as the unions are at the table and able to discuss some of these options with the companies, it would seem to me that we do have a circumstance where an equitable arrangement can be worked out without the kind of government intervention that, one way or another in the longer term, causes some dislocation and ultimately some hardship on those who are going to be caught by that sort of arrangement when perhaps they do not want to be."

The minister may be aware that Allen Industries in Hamilton has now flatly refused to sit down with the union to negotiate a shutdown or closure agreement. When the companies do refuse and when there are 230 concerned

workers, is the minister now prepared to say there should be some government intervention to see what can be done about those jobs?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, that really is a question that should properly be directed to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay).

**Mr. Mackenzie:** It was the Treasurer who responded to it and it was his remarks I referred to. I am just wondering what he thinks we should be doing. All right, I will take it to the Minister of Labour then.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Did the Treasurer redirect it?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Yes.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday afternoon Mr. Nickerson of the United Auto Workers met with Mr. Vic Pathe, Assistant Deputy Minister of Labour, and Mr. Bob Joyce, our consultant for plant closures.

Following that meeting, a telex was sent to the head offices of Allen Industries asking them to come in and meet with us at their earliest opportunity. I assure the member we are taking this matter quite seriously and that we reacted to the concerns before they were raised in this House.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** I find it interesting that the last time the minister reacted, when the closure first started, the company flatly refused to meet with the union in his office—a meeting I was at. I do not know what the minister is going to do the second time around.

The minister is aware that Inco, Allen Industries and probably very shortly Inglis—a long list of plants—are facing closure or moves and their workers are asking for assistance. He must also be aware that there is a growing sense of insecurity about employment in our community. This government is adding to that insecurity by refusing to deal with the questions we have been raising. I refer to the questions of proper justification or guidelines as to where the responsibility exists to the workers when a company is able to better its condition through the rationalization process.

Is the minister not prepared to take a look at specific legislation that will start dealing with this growing problem of plant closures?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I can only repeat what I have said before in this Legislature. If I thought we could save one job by having disclosure legislation I would have brought it in a long time ago.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, the minister says he is going to have ongoing meetings with Allen



Industries. His ministry people have also met regarding the closing of Bridge and Tank in Hamilton, which has been in existence for almost 120 years. I believe that meeting occurred more than a month ago and to date it has had absolutely no impact on saving that operation.

What is the point of the minister having meetings, as he did with Consolidated Bathurst, as he will with Allen Industries, as he has had with Bridge and Tank, if all he is going to do is privately and publicly justify the moves that are being made by a number of these companies?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I am sure the honourable member is not suggesting that the government force a company that is losing money, such as Bridge and Tank, to stay in business. I am sure that is not what she is suggesting.

**Ms. Copps:** The minister is justifying the closure.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** We are not justifying closures. There are various reasons for these meetings. The primary reason is to ensure the rights of the workers are protected in each and every closure. We explore every possibility and work very closely with my colleague the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) to see if there is any possibility of assistance of whatever nature that would keep a company open.

We have been successful. In my riding of Sault Ste. Marie, Abitibi-Price was set to close but a purchaser was found. That followed an extensive study funded by the Ministry of Industry and Trade. As a result, it now looks very favourable that Abitibi, instead of closing and 500 jobs going down the tube, will not only remain open but money will be pumped into it to upgrade the facilities and protect the jobs of those workers in the months and years ahead.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to go back to the Treasurer, to whom this was directed in the first place, if he is willing to take this. I would like to put it in the context of the unemployment statistics today and his action as Treasurer to try to meet the needs. Is this possible?

**Mr. Speaker:** The Treasurer redirected the original question to the Minister of Labour saying it was more properly asked of him, and we have recognized the problem has to do with the Minister of Labour.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** All right, I will deal with the Minister of Labour. Is he not willing to deal with the Treasurer now in terms of some action to be taken about plant closures?

I want to draw to the minister's attention that the SKF plant closed two and a half years ago and that the statistics on unemployment we see today include some of those members; 36 per cent of those men are still without jobs. Many of them are not included in any statistics because they are not eligible for welfare, although eight per cent of them are now on welfare.

What kind of job creation programs is the minister talking about bringing in through the Treasurer which will help the older workers of this province who have paid their dues and are being left behind?

The reality is that people who have been unemployed for two and a half years are losing all hope, they are losing their homes, their health is deteriorating, as the studies are showing, and nothing is being done for them. What specific projects is the minister recommending in this budget to help the older workers?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, let me go back for a moment to the Canada-Ontario employment development program. I am not going to quote again the figures that show the short-term job creation and the calibre of the projects and so on. What I want to do is refer to the fact that this government was prepared to continue that COED program.

This Treasurer and his predecessor were prepared to put extra funds into the COED program but the federal government refused to co-operate. That program was working beautifully. It was a safety net for people on welfare, those who had exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits.

This government and the Treasurer were prepared to provide matching funds but the federal government refused to continue with the program. They wanted to go with programs of their own, programs they would get the profile for. It alarms and disturbs me that this type of attitude comes into provincial-federal matters.

#### WASTES FROM SUNCOR

**Mr. Elston:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of the Environment, who I note no longer carries as much weight in his portfolio as he once did.

**10:50 a.m.**

I want to indicate some concern with respect to the operations carried on by Suncor, our oil company in Ontario. As the minister knows, they have made an application to the Environmental Assessment Board to spread their oily wastes on land around the outside of their site, which is close to the Chippewa Indian band at Sarnia. A



great deal of concern has been expressed by local residents.

In the ministry's submissions to the board, should it not require that Suncor be made to continue to carry its oily wastes to the Tricil plant for treatment? I note the minister has lauded that plant for its advanced state of technology. Should the minister not ensure that our oil company in Ontario sets the example for all other industries in the province?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased the honourable member has referred to the fine facility in Sarnia that is available for the disposition of certain contaminated wastes such as those that may be generated by oil companies. Of course, he is referring to Tricil.

With respect to Suncor specifically, I assure the member my staff would under no circumstances allow any certificate of approval for the spreading of oily wastes if they are even modestly contaminated and suggest in any way any kind of environmental concern. I want to give the member that assurance now. I will provide him with the detailed report of exactly what the oily wastes contain before anything is allowed to proceed.

I agree that Suncor should show an example. I am pleased to say that up to this point—and I suggest it will be so in the future as well—it has been showing an example.

**Mr. Elston:** One of the examples that should be set by our oil company is there should be prior consultation with the people living in the surrounding areas where oily wastes might be spread.

As the local representative and also as Minister of the Environment, can the minister ensure that, before anything further takes place with respect to this application, there will be representation by people such as Allison Plain and the Indian band councillor, Wilson Plain, so they will have ample opportunity to study the program, even though they had to show up on rather short notice?

Since we are looking at mediation, perhaps there should have been prior consultation. Will the minister undertake to ensure public consultation between our oil company and the citizens surrounding that site?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** I am prepared to give the member that undertaking. I will see to it that the neighbours who would be most directly affected by the proposal—and it is a proposal at this stage—are fully consulted and assured there will be no contamination or environmental damage. I will undertake to give that commitment.

## CHEQUE-CASHING CENTRES

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations regarding one of the parasites on the poor that has sprung up over the last few years in Ontario—National Money Mart.

The minister corresponded with the member for Etobicoke (Mr. Philip) in January about the Money Mart operations, which cash cheques early for people who basically go there only for that service. They pay for that service because they cannot afford to last any longer without food for their kids and that kind of thing.

The minister said in his letter there is nothing illegal about the process. He also said, "However, any amount deducted from the cheque of a disadvantaged individual may be considered excessive by an enlightened society." Are we living in an enlightened society in Ontario? Will the minister bring in legislation that will make it illegal to charge fees for the cashing of provincial government cheques?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, in answer to the last question first, in a last shall be first approach, I do believe we are living in an enlightened society led by this government.

Second, that is an issue we have explored in some depth. For example, the member will be interested in the most recent response I received from the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea).

I will quote from his letter. "Income maintenance officers have been assisting these identified clients, who are few in number, in establishing themselves with traditional banking institutions.

"Secondly, inquiries from Money Mart for assistance in identifying family benefit or general welfare assistance clearances are not responded to either by the province or by the municipalities.

"Thirdly, the ministry is also considering a direct bank deposit or monthly entitlement cheque system as an enhancement to our computer program.

"In addition, I may say that I have had correspondence and personal discussions with the Minister of Revenue (Mr. Gregory) to explore the possibility of a pilot project with the Province of Ontario Savings Office in this area. He is still considering that matter, and we spoke as recently as two weeks ago about it."

So it is an area we are looking into in great depth.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** I am very pleased to hear that. Those are two of the directions I was going to suggest. We have a great model for direct



deposit in Peel right now, the only one in the province. It works very well, and I would suggest we can move on that very quickly.

Also, has the minister spoken to his counterpart the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay)? I know the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations has a great interest in human rights questions because of the Human Rights Code. Does the minister realize that many of the people who go to cash these cheques in a supposedly hassle-free situation have to be thumbprinted? Does he realize that is taking place in order to cash those cheques?

Does he also realize at the moment there is discrimination by Money Mart between those on social assistance who cash cheques and the working poor who cash cheques? There is no legislation in the province at the moment to stop that kind of discrimination. Will he also look into the possibility in the interim of stopping both of those practices by Money Mart?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** The Minister of Labour is here, and I am sure he took note of the member's comments.

#### MINOR HOCKEY

**Mr. Pollock:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Tourism and Recreation.

It has come to my attention that hockey teams belonging to the All-Ontario Hockey League AAA classification are the only teams that will be given travel assistance from Wintario to go to Ontario championship games. There will be no travel assistance to Ontario Minor Hockey Association teams. This means that no hockey teams winning Ontario championships in my riding or any other riding will get financial assistance. Does the minister think this is fair?

**Mr. Bradley:** No, it is not fair.

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** And it is not rehearsed either, Mr. Speaker.

First, I think we should keep our perspective here. There are 74 different sports governing bodies in the province all getting financial assistance from my ministry. Hockey is only one of them. In order to delegate some of the administrative responsibilities and to cut down on administration for my ministry, the whole matter of financing travel, accommodation and meals for championship events is the responsibility of the sports governing body, in this case of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

As to the question of invitational events as distinct from championship events, those matters are the responsibility of one or other of our 18 field offices. I know they are in contact with the

leagues. The regulations were somewhat changed, effective April 1, 1984. It may be that the hockey team or league in question has not quite understood the new regulations.

I want to say one thing. I would be very surprised—in fact, I would not tolerate it—to find a situation where small towns in this province could never get help to go on to championship or invitational events and that these things would be accessible only for the bigger places. Anyway, I will look into this and see just what the problems are. If the honourable member has any further questions, we will be very pleased to look into them.

**Mr. Pollock:** The information that came to me was that minor hockey associations did not get any funding, so they really cannot divide it up. Only AAA associations got funding.

**Mr. Stokes:** You cannot distribute what you ain't got.

**Mr. Pollock:** That is for sure.

11 a.m.

**Hon. Mr. Baetz:** The minor hockey leagues—in fact, all the leagues—are still getting funding; there is no question about that. As I say, I will look into this particular question. If the honourable member has any further questions to raise on it, I will be very pleased to meet with him.

#### INSPECTIONS FOR AIR EMISSIONS

**Mr. Ruprecht:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of the Environment. Is the minister aware that a greyish-green powder has been contaminating Parkdale and Dovercourt ridings for four days, starting April 2, 1984?

In spite of numerous calls from residents, it took his ministry inspectors more than two days to respond. I would like to send this bag of powder to him so he can examine the contents. I have more and there is much more where this came from. Would a page take this over to the minister?

Can the minister ensure that these inspections will be done much more speedily, especially in view of the fact that there have been many dangerous chemical emissions?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member has done it once again. The material he is about to hand over to me is known as bentonite, and it is a very innocuous type of clay material; it is nontoxic, noncombustible and not dangerous. It is used in the foundry and waterwell industries. There is no danger associated with this material whatsoever.



I think the member should make that very clear to the people to whom he has been talking in the Junction triangle area. The dust is admittedly an aggravation. The dust resulted from spills which occurred when this material was being unloaded. We have already taken steps to make sure the company in question handles this material in bags from this point on so the dust does not occur. I want the member, if he will take the time to do this, to advise the residents of the area that it is not a dangerous substance.

**Mr. McClellan:** It is very pleasant.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Have a bowlful, Andy.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Ruprecht:** I am simply sending over the material so the minister can see that it was spread over a wide area. It was found on the streets and, as I said, we have more.

The point here is that the inspections are not being carried out with the quickness and speed that is so necessary. Because of these inadequate inspections, I wonder whether the minister would agree to consider our recommendations that his ministry's 24-hour telephone answering service, which is now in force, be expanded to a 24-hour central inspection service, perhaps in co-operation with trained city fire officials, to better monitor and inspect air emissions and chemical spills on short notice specifically for the Junction triangle area and the chemical companies found therein. Will he consider implementing a systematic, 24-hour rooftop monitoring program for effective measurement of air emissions?

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** If I can take the last question first, Speaker, we do have a very effective air monitoring system in place very close to the Junction triangle, as the member knows.

It is incumbent upon me to apologize for the delay in the inspection with respect to this specific material, but it happened as a result of a very human problem, in that two of our inspectors were off sick at the time the call was made. That delay is highly unusual and in all probability would not happen again, but I will take the member's suggestions under review and see whether it is practicable to implement some improvements in the response time.

I did not like the delay any more than the member did, but when one has two staff members who were sick at the time the call came in, it resulted in the delays I am indicating to the House this morning.

## AVAILABILITY OF ELECTRICAL POWER

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy. I wonder whether the minister is aware that a small community, only 160 miles from Toronto and Ottawa and situated on a major highway in an area that has been used as a right of way by Ontario Hydro for two major electric distribution lines since 1971, has been denied electric power by Hydro, despite 25 years of efforts of the residents to obtain electrification.

Why is it that Sabine township remains probably the only community in southern and eastern Ontario that wants and needs electrification and cannot get it?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the details of the honourable member's question. If he could provide me with the details, I would be glad to follow up on his inquiry.

**Mr. Wildman:** Since the minister is unaware of this, I hope he will check with Hydro and determine why it refuses to come up with the \$150,000 it says it would cost to run a line for the 100 year-round residents of this community, who are only seven kilometres from the nearest hydro line, when Hydro is still willing to spend billions of dollars on generating plants such as Darlington, which the province does not need. And why is it that, on top of this, Hydro is blocking efforts by the community to buy power from a local resident with a hydraulic generating system?

What is it going to take to get Ontario Hydro and the ministry to bring this community into the 20th century?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** I can only reiterate that if the member wishes to provide me with more details on the situation he is referring to, I will be glad to try to find him some answers.

I remind him, though, that the economics of electrical distribution sometimes do not justify the extension of transmission lines or local lines to communities where the potential consumption of electrical energy would not offset the cost of that extension of lines.

## LABOURERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Labour. My understanding is that the Minister of Labour met this morning with members of Local 1059 of the Labourers' International Union from London, Ontario, and surrounding areas. I was assuming he would have something to report, given the discussions we have had in this House.

Will he please bring us up to date on what he is going to do about those discussions and how he is going to rectify that serious injustice?



**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to do so. I had an excellent meeting with the executive of the Labourers' council in London, led by Mr. Jim MacKinnon. They are very fine people; they came in in a very reasonable manner, and we had an excellent exchange. We listened very intently to the problems they described to us and to their suggestions for a resolution.

We are planning, first of all, to study the judge's decision very carefully; we tried to obtain it in time for our meeting this morning, but it will not be available for about two weeks. We are also scheduling meetings just as soon as possible with the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario. I promised the gentlemen from London that once we had had an opportunity for those deliberations, we would be back to them accordingly.

**Mr. Peterson:** I do not want to be unkind, because that is not in my nature, but the minister has been dilly-dallying so long on this matter. He is scheduling more meetings. He has had meetings. This is not a new problem; he has been aware of it for some time.

If the minister does not know the judge's opinion, I do, even though it was given only orally. The judge said he did not think the union officials acted improperly; there was nothing else they could do in the situation.

The deficiency clearly is the legislation, and even the OFL recognizes there is a problem with it, although there may be different approaches to a solution. The minister has had meetings with Mr. Pilkey about it. We have brought it up in this House. Meanwhile, right under the minister's nose he has the spectre of an admittedly illegal election and a trusteeship because of the deficiency in the legislation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** Surely the minister knows enough now to act after this year or so of discussion. Why will he not move immediately to prevent this kind of trusteeship, the seizing of a company when there is clearly an illegality, and refer it to the Ontario Labour Relations Board as should be done?

11:10 a.m.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** The honourable member hit the subject matter right on the head when he said there are different approaches to it. That is exactly the reason we want to consult with the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Provincial

Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario.

I want to be very careful that we do not intrude into the administration of the unions; they have their own constitutions. This is why I feel it is a sensitive issue and one in which we feel it is appropriate to discuss any possible legislative changes only with persons who are responsible for the administration of the trade union movement in this province. I think that is the responsible thing to do.

#### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister responsible for Women's Issues. I have here a special issue of Ontario Business News, dated April 1984, which writes up the five winners of the 1984 Province of Ontario Industrial Achievement Awards sponsored by the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

This glossy brochure says the award winners "were selected by an adjudication panel consisting of senior ministry officials and distinguished executives from the private sector." Further, it states, "The success of these companies, in different ways, symbolizes what every Ontario company can strive for—and achieve."

Is the Deputy Premier aware that only one of the five companies singled out for this prize even pretends to have an affirmative action program?

When asked about that program, the director of personnel for the company, which is Waferboard Corp. of Timmins, said the affirmative action program has no targets, no timetables, no labour-management committee and no specific objectives, just "agreement" with the ministry's guidelines. It employs 16 women and 665 workers all told, so it would appear there is room for women to move into some of the jobs there.

Will the minister urge the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) to include in the criteria for judging the excellence of firms the adoption of an affirmative action program in firms where women appear to be under-represented?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that much more work has to be done in the private sector with respect to affirmative action. I agree with that. We have a long way to go in working with major employers in this province and, indeed, all employers.

As an employer, we are committed to the principle of affirmative action ourselves; I am referring to the government. The whole concept of equality of access and advancement in the work place is fair and just and, we hope, will be



embraced by more and more employers in this province.

We are working with them to show them not only the justice of the concept but also the benefits that can flow from it both for the employees and for the employer.

### PETITION

#### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. Cousens:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present to you, the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, petitions, not only from my constituency but also from the riding of Peterborough.

### REPORT

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Barlow from the standing committee on resources development presented the following report and moved its adoption:

Your committee begs to report the following bill without amendment:

Bill 141, An Act to amend the Employment Standards Act.

Motion agreed to.

Bill ordered for committee of the whole House.

### MOTION

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the standing committee on administration of justice be authorized to continue its consideration of sessional paper 117 of 1983, the white paper respecting loan and trust companies, in order to finalize its report.

Motion agreed to.

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### BROCKVILLE ROWING CLUB INC. ACT

Mr. Treleaven moved, on behalf of Mr. Runciman, seconded by Mr. Barlow, first reading of Bill Pr46, An Act respecting the Brockville Rowing Club Inc.

Motion agreed to.

#### COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Kennedy moved, seconded by Mr. Williams, first reading of Bill 30, An Act to

amend the Compensation for Victims of Crime Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Kennedy:** Mr. Speaker, this is a reintroduction of a bill I introduced last year, which received second reading but which died on the order paper.

### HEALTH DISCIPLINES AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Cooke moved, seconded by Ms. Bryden, first reading of Bill 31, An Act to establish Midwifery as a Self-Governing Health Profession.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, this bill is intended to establish midwifery as an independent self-governing health profession along the lines of medicine and nursing.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (continued)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. Breaugh:** Mr. Speaker, as you know, I always like to join in on the debate on the speech from the throne. I like to do it on a Friday morning when we get rid of the riff-raff and are down to the hard-core parliamentarians in here.

I always like to throw in a little bit at the beginning of my comments about the procedures that are used around here. As members may know, I have an ongoing interest in the standing committee on procedural affairs and its operation and the rules of the Legislature, and I sometimes put forward the impression, I think fairly accurately, that the rules in this House are rules on some days and not on others. They are extremely flexible.

**Mr. Nixon:** You have the definitive answer to the bell-ringing problem.

**Mr. Breaugh:** Yes, we do have an answer designed by the member for Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg), who put together one of the most extraordinary rules proposals I have ever witnessed in my life to resolve the problem of the government being able to call a vote so this House would not be in the same position as our unfortunate brothers and sisters in Manitoba, who found themselves not being able to get a piece of legislation called for a vote because the opposition refused to vote on it.



**Mr. Nixon:** I understand they chickened out on that one.

**11:20 a.m.**

**Mr. Breagh:** The honourable member had better stick around and see who has chickened out, because I think there will be a resolution to that problem. Eventually, whether or not this rule designed by the member for Wilson Heights is the one accepted, there will be a resolution of that problem here.

All of us have to come to grips at some point with a problem that has been discussed around here a great deal, although not a great deal has been done about it, and that is the fact that ordinary members, such as those on the government side, have a vested interest in seeing how the procedures of the House are structured and are used, and from their point of view there is an efficiency factor that they very much want.

I do not deny for a moment that governments have a need to see that their parliaments run in an efficient manner; there is nothing wrong with that. My argument has always been, and will continue to be for quite a while yet before we get the kind of rules I would want put in place, that ordinary members from all sides have a job to do here in the assembly, ordinary members from all sides have some needs which are not being met by the current practices of this Legislature, and we ought to make some rule changes and some changes in the practices and procedures of the House to make the job of an ordinary member a job that is fulfilling and allows the abilities and experiences of ordinary members to play a role in forming the activities of this parliament.

We have looked at other jurisdictions at some length and we have seen how other parliaments make the attempt to go at that problem. Many of us are a little bit envious, quite frankly, that in the American congressional system a great deal of work can be done and that almost all their legislation, for example, is initiated by ordinary members of Congress.

We work in a parliamentary system, so there are some distinctions that must be made, but I think it is not an impossible task for us to set out to make the role of an ordinary member an important one.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, our federal Parliament has attempted to do this, and on the procedural affairs committee we have looked with great interest at its activities. They seem to have succeeded in a relatively short time in addressing themselves to that problem and in winning not total success but at least some measure of success in convincing the federal

Parliament those kinds of rule changes are necessary and that in the long run the people of Canada, and it would be the people of Ontario in our case, would have a better, more efficient Legislature.

There are two other little things I wanted to touch on about the rules. I know we have gone on many times about an electronic Hansard and I know hard and fast political positions have probably been taken on the matter, but I want to stick it in again. I think it is worth while to note that we are now among the last of the Legislatures in Canada not to have an electronic Hansard of some sort.

We went through a period when there were big arguments about the mechanics of it all, the technology, and I think that has been resolved. In Saskatchewan they have a rather efficient electronic Hansard at a rather modest price as those things go. I think all members, as we sit here during question period, are bothered by the obnoxious and old-fashioned technology that is used in this Legislature.

All members are aware that when we go back home, people ask us: "Why can I sit in my living room and watch my local council conduct its proceedings on cable, why can I watch TVOntario and see the proceedings of the federal Parliament, but I cannot find any electronic record of the proceedings of the Legislature of Ontario?" There is no rational reason for denying the implementation of an electronic Hansard in this Legislature.

**Mr. Treleaven:** Too expensive.

**Mr. Breagh:** I heard someone say, "Too expensive," and I am going to address myself to that in a moment.

There are extremely valid reasons for saying we live in an age in which people get their information from a television set; more and more that is the practice. There is a legitimate reason for saying a municipal council should open up its chambers to the local cable company and let people follow the proceedings as the members establish priorities in a budget, as they debate the policies in their municipality, as they go through the planning process and all those other things. It is legitimate to say that people have a right to access to this kind of procedure in their own homes.

We have accepted in this House that we have an obligation to inform people in our constituencies about the proceedings here and we do this in a variety of ways. But it is beyond me why we cannot go that extra step. We are not asking whether the television cameras can come in here;



they are in here every day. We are not talking about a lack of technology, because we know other jurisdictions have already done it. We are not talking about a great expense either, because I dare say the cost of implementing an electronic Hansard in this House could be absorbed in the advertising budget of any ministry and we would not even be able to find it, it is so small.

It is not peanuts we are talking about, it is a substantial investment; but the obligation is to provide the people of Ontario with information about the proceedings of this House. Not through one of the ministries and, quite frankly, not even through the opposition members; they should be able to see for themselves what is happening here. If we want to talk a little bit about the decorum of the joint, so to speak, one of the things that might actually improve the process around here is to let people see how this joint operates.

I would be interested in hearing from members, after they have been televised for a week or so, the comments of people back home about things like our lovely little question period and what that is all about. When I go home to Oshawa, I am asked consistently by people who have watched a little bit of the federal question period, exactly what that is all about. They ask: "What is all this hooting and hollering and ranting and heckling and raving? Why do people not just ask a question and people on the government side just give an answer?"

It would have a long-term effect to explain to people how parliaments work, whether the process is a valid one or not and whether their local member is serving a useful function in that parliament. It is not that an electronic Hansard will display all the work a member does, but the time is long overdue when this House establishes an electronic Hansard.

I want to point out that as ordinary members we have taken it to committees of this Legislature. As ordinary members, we have presented resolutions in here to do just that. It is in the Speaker's hands and has been there for some time. I am going to implore him to get it off the shelves, to review the technology available, to review the costing, which is about one quarter of the original estimate, I would point out to him, and to implement it. It is that important.

There are a couple of other little areas around rules I want to touch on. One is, this House is absolutely abysmal in terms of conflict of interest rules for the members. I find it passing strange that last year we set out a new Municipal Conflict of Interest Act for municipal politicians in

Ontario but it is a challenge to try to find where it lays out the rules about a conflict of interest for members of this Legislature. One can find occasions where, if the member chooses, the member may rise—I think under standing order 22 or something—and say, "I do not want to vote on this because I have a conflict." But the rules about conflict are not spelled out anywhere one can find.

I raised this matter in the fall session and it is on the plate of the standing committee on procedural affairs. I simply point out to the members that in other jurisdictions, such as Quebec, they have taken the time and effort to lay down a practice which is acceptable to all the members, where the conflict of interest provisions are clear and where members can understand, as a municipal councillor in Ontario can understand when a conflict occurs, how to handle that conflict and how the House makes itself aware of when a conflict of interest occurs among the members.

**Mr. Nixon:** What would teachers and farmers do? There would not be anything left for us.

**Mr. Breagh:** Maybe they could teach and farm, those would be useful occupations for them.

I want to end my remarks on the rules with a little bit about research, because one of the things we have tried to do in a number of ways is to see that ordinary members have access to a research capacity which is useful. We tried to do that through the library service. We have tried to do that through the caucuses and we have begun the process of trying to see that individual members get that. I believe we are on the way to getting something that is useful for ordinary members.

**Mr. Nixon:** But you spent all your money. What did you do with the money we already gave you?

**Mr. Breagh:** We did not go to Russia, or drink champagne and eat caviare from over there getting ready to do that.

**Mr. Nixon:** Are you implying I went on public funds? The NDP distributed its money in lump-sum payments.

**Mr. Breagh:** No, wrong as always.

**Mr. Nixon:** How about justifying that? It was the silliest thing I ever heard.

**Mr. Breagh:** The member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon) is wrong, as always.

**Mr. Riddell:** Tell us how you did do it.

**Mr. Breagh:** I will tell the member for Huron-Middlesex (Mr. Riddell) later. We did not



raise interest rates for farmers and I know he will be disappointed in that, but we did handle it.

**11:30 a.m.**

We have a research capacity. The next logical step is to try to provide for occasions when that research can be used. We are somewhat limited in that capacity. We have traditional means during question period, during estimates and a little bit more now through committee work that studies special interest topics. We have not gone as far as the Parliament at Westminster and its use of select committees. We have certainly not begun to go as far as the congressional system does. The federal Parliament has begun to explore avenues whereby this new research capacity can be useful to Parliament and that will be the next logical step.

I want to talk about local issues for a while. Traditionally members use the throne speech debate as an occasion to bring up things that are important to them and the people in their ridings. I will relate an incident to show how governments work these days.

Last year about this time I had a call from a gentleman who runs a little clinic for children who have been sexually abused. I spent an evening at the clinic-like structure where they talk about their problems and experiences. It struck me as a problem that was just beginning to come out of the closet. I had stumbled upon some individuals who were of great assistance to people who had suffered some kind of sexual abuse. They had, in a very simple way, begun to help these people.

I wrote to the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea) and said this was a good idea and maybe he ought to fund a pilot project. He wrote back and I was quite pleased to see they were aware of that pilot project and had approved \$40,000 to run it for a year. I went on my merry way saying, "Is that not a good thing?" Here is a project useful to people in my community. Here is a government that has given some funding to at least get it on the rails and see whether it will work on a slightly larger and more permanent scale.

I was unhappy to discover about three weeks ago, however, that this project, which was approved by the Ministry of Community and Social Services and initiated by a proposal from the Family and Children's Services of the Durham Region, has yet to begin. It is more than a year after the project was approved by the ministry. There have been funding problems. The ministry could not figure out how to hand out the cheques. A partial payment of about \$10,000

has gone out, but the remaining payments have not yet been made. Neither have the local agencies been able to find the staff to realign the organization. For a variety of reasons, the project has not yet happened.

Maybe that is a sad, almost a searing, criticism of how governments work these days. A year after a project is approved, it has yet to start. The problems remain, the people want to help, and the idea is there. It could have gone ahead more than a year ago, but it has not happened. Someone did not give it enough priority. Someone did not find the staff people. Someone did not allocate the budget. Somebody here forgot to send out a cheque. For whichever of those reasons, the thing has not yet happened and that stinks. If in this day and age we cannot devise a system of government which responds to people's needs a little faster than that, we are in the middle of a sick process. That is one of our problems.

I want to talk about a couple of other things. About a year ago there was another local project I became interested in. A group of us got together and decided Oshawa should have a help centre for unemployed people. As members may know, our unemployment rate for the past year or so has consistently run well over 10 per cent. My constituency office and several other social agencies around town know that when people become unemployed they are introduced, maybe for the first time in their lives, to the massive bureaucracies floating around here.

They get exposed to the concepts of filling out forms and meeting criteria, making appeals and hearing their needs denied. They are very often left in a maze of bureaucracy. It is very difficult to try to work themselves out of this maze on their own. Many unemployed people in my area, and I suspect across the province, have a heck of a time trying to sort it out. They do not understand the bureaucracies at work. They do not understand why there are sometimes three levels of government lousing up their lives.

They do not understand why they cannot get work. Some of them have worked for a long time. They know they are good workers. They are confident in their ability to perform. It is sad that more and more of them are people of good education, good background, with specialized skills training. More and more of them, about 20 per cent province-wide and probably a little higher in our area, are young people who have done what society told them to do. They went to school, performed well, got high school diplomas.



Some have more than that; they graduated from community colleges or have university degrees.

They are confused as to why there are no jobs for them. They are confused as to why they continually have to knock on doors and fill out résumés and application forms. They are consistently told not only, "You are not going to get this job," but also, "There is no use in even applying."

We thought a centre where people could talk to others who had been unemployed, who had a little expertise in filling out forms and dealing with bureaucracies, would help them out. Many programs that were designed to help the unemployed are unknown to the population. For example, not many of them know they can get some assistance with Ontario health insurance plan coverage, even though they are aware that is an extremely important thing to have and they should make sure they fill out the forms on time.

We have a group of about four paid staff people and three or four others who come in to help. I believe the help centre has done its job and done it well. The original funding came out of the Canada-Ontario employment development program from the federal and provincial governments. That funding has begun to run out. I believe it expires at the end of this month. We have tried to raise money locally, from union locals, for example, but it is tough sledding in union locals in Oshawa these days.

Aside from the one big local that is going great guns again, at least temporarily—and there is a wariness about how long that is going to last—many of our other locals have lost a lot of members. Many of them are locals for plants that do not exist any more. They have their own problems to deal with, so they are not in a financial position to assist. They have funding problems.

I always find it strange that simple ideas never seem to gain acceptance. I do not know why that is. If we had hired an executive director for the help centre, eight bureaucrats to sit around and push paper and 29 counsellors who would see one person a day, this government might say, "Boy, that is a big deal going on down there in Oshawa." If we had a high overhead, rented a big office building and set everybody up with their own telephones, if we ran on the model of the Revenue building, which is just across the road from my office, this government would probably say, "That is great stuff."

Because it is a simple operation, because it employs relatively few people, because it is in a very modest situation and because it actually

works, it will probably not get much help from this government. That is a shame, because I know the people who work there and I know the people who use the unemployed help centre in Oshawa. It is invaluable. It is true it does simple things and is not a big deal, but it is also true the damned thing helps a lot of people in my riding every day. I want that one to survive.

There was another hot idea that sprang up locally in the last few years. Members may recall the ministry gave the Residential Tenancy Commission a branch office in Oshawa, which was a good idea. I supported that wholeheartedly. Through the Social Planning Council of Oshawa-Whitby, we also came up with an idea for a tenants' hot line, which performs a not dissimilar function to the help centre.

It tries to explain to tenants in Oshawa, Durham and surrounding areas about the Residential Tenancies Act. It tries to explain the rulings of the commission, which ain't easy. It tries to point out to them they have some legal rights regarding landlord-tenant legislation but in other areas they have none. That is not easy either.

This is another idea that may have a big flaw in it from this government's point of view. It is too simple, too clear, too concise. It ain't fancy. It ain't part of the bicentennial celebrations. For a lot of reasons, this government tends to frown on this kind of operation. On the other hand, I am a proponent of little ideas, using ordinary people to help other people. The tenants' hot line may be well down the chute as well.

We have had a couple of others. One is called Project Auberge. We hope it will be established by the fall. It is a centre for battered wives and their children. It too has been begging the municipal, federal and provincial governments for funding. It is on pretty shaky grounds.

**11:40 a.m.**

We also have a little place called Destiny Manor, which is a halfway house for women who have had problems with alcoholism. It deals with various ministries and I have participated in attempting to get some contacts there. Again, the simplicity of the concept of a centre established, by and large, by women for women with a particular problem, an idea that works, is perhaps hampered because it is not done on a grandiose scale. It is a simple concept, one that works well. It supplies a need in my community that was not being met by anybody else.

What angers me is that these three or four little projects are relatively small in financial terms and demands on the government for money. They work and they are in the private sector, so to



speaking. One would think this government would be enamoured by that. It likes to cut the ribbon. When it opens it up, it likes to announce that one or more of its ministries are participating, but it also has a tendency to leave these simple concepts to die on the vine. I think that is a shame.

One of the things I would have liked to have seen in the speech from the throne would have been that this government intends to identify in every community in Ontario ideas like that which work and provide a useful service to that community and intends to move in and support them financially, not for six or nine months, but until the problem is resolved. Maybe there is some truth—and I have heard some discussion about this—that all of these ideas overlap a little bit and they ought to get together and form one centre which provides all of these services under the same roof. That is true.

To carry my concept a bit further, I look at my school boards. I think they do a good job, but I see two huge bureaucracies with two very nice education centres across the road from each other. It seems money is no object. We need good schools and education centres, but I see people trying to provide service to a community where the government is nonexistent.

The Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Mr. Dean) was asked a question the other day and he did not really know anything about it. Maybe that is understandable because he is new to his ministerial responsibilities, but I am anxious that when these things happen in my community, this government understands the needs of the community and that we do not always have to spend \$20 million to resolve a problem. Often it can be done for much less. When local people have taken the initiative to go after those kinds of problems, when they have banded together to provide that kind of service to a community, I believe this government ought to go after those folks and say, "You have a good idea and one that works. We are here to help you, not put you out of business."

I want to close this little section of my remarks by addressing them a little more specifically to the Provincial Secretary for Social Development because it is not a bad comparison with what I have just been talking about.

A few years ago the people in Oshawa said, "We do not have a residential care facility for kids." A lot of local people banded together, raised about \$500,000 and put up a place called Durham House on Simcoe Street North. The ministry moved in and said, "We do not like the

way you are providing that care. Cut out the residential section and run it on a day care basis," which they did.

It is interesting that the area director for the Ministry of Community and Social Services, a fellow named Alan Vallillee, commissioned T. A. Croil and Associates to do a report. A woman named Dorothy Easton was one of the people who wrote that report which closed Durham House. I now find that both of those people, Vallillee, who is on leave from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, and Mrs. Easton, are now employed by Kinark Child and Family Services. Kinark is providing, I am told in press releases and in conversations with them, three new group homes in Oshawa.

The ministry moves in, squashes the local projects and says, "We do not need that kind of program." Then it spends some time generating the need. Now we do need that project and we bring someone from the private sector, Kinark, in to meet that need. I think that is wrong. Quite frankly, I would prefer that the government keeps its hot little hands out of my community if that is the attitude. Why does the government not come into a place like Oshawa, identify programs that are working and support them? It does that to a degree, but it is also true that the hand of a large government is very strongly felt in Oshawa, and we do not like it. We would love it if it was a supportive hand, but for the most part we find it is destructive, not supportive.

**Mr. Stokes:** The government does not believe in local initiative.

**Mr. Breaugh:** Just to offer a kind of financial comparison, since somebody threw in the financial thing, in the middle of the last election the then Treasurer came to Oshawa and put \$1 million into a roll-on, roll-off project at the Oshawa harbour. We liked that. We like to see ministers roll in and try to buy Oshawa away from the NDP. That is okay by me. They are welcome in Oshawa with their cheque books in their hot little hands on any day.

The irony is that in the middle of the election the then Treasurer came to Oshawa with \$1 million in hand for the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program. Less than a year later the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow) made sure that roll-on, roll-off thing died on the vine. The government might just as well have taken the \$1 million and stood at the corner of King and Simcoe Streets in Oshawa and given \$20 to everybody who walked by there. It would have been a more profitable thing to do.



They might better have gone to the harbour and paved the storage area; that would have been a useful thing to do. They might better have put some proper lighting facilities down there; that would have been a useful thing to do. They might better have put some proper storage facilities down there; that would have been a useful thing to do. But the government blew away \$1 million and it does not feel bad about it. In fact, I keep hearing the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) say it is a good idea.

Let me move on to a couple of other things that have bothered me and rankled with me a bit of late. In the standing committee on procedural affairs in our review of agencies, we came across the thing called the Innovation Development for Employment Advancement Corp. Members may recall this was born with a lot of flags and a lot of ministry staff sitting around just prior to the last provincial election.

We finally got around to reviewing the IDEA Corp. A couple of very bright people, Ian Macdonald, who is chairman of the board, and Brian St. John, who is president, came in with flow charts. This is what has happened to the IDEA Corp. since its inception.

**Mr. Stokes:** Is he the guy who makes over \$100,000 a year?

**Mr. Breaugh:** Yes, \$104,000 a year.

They came in with their flow charts. They had the answers; they looked good and they talked good. They were talking about confusing stuff, such as high technology, new ideas, getting it into the market, having entry to the market and all of that. Then we got down to the point where we said: "Let us look at some examples here. Tell us about the relationship between the IDEA Corp. and one of the people with whom you are entering into a joint venture." They said, "We cannot do that."

We said: "We are a legislative committee. We are here to try to get some understanding of how you function. We would like to know how much you pay people. We would like to know how your program is developing. We would like to know what kind of product lines you are getting on stream. We would like to know how you intend to market that, where you intend to market that, what your projections for the foreseeable future are," all the legitimate questions that are asked every day before legislative committees.

They said: "We are sorry, we can't. This is a joint venture. All the government of Ontario does is put up the money." After that point, we are supposed to shut up. Members of the Legislature are not supposed to be audacious enough to ask

people involved in a joint venture what they are doing. We are not supposed to do that.

There is a little problem there we are going to have to resolve, as this government gets more involved in joint ventures, which is clearly a pattern. I want to say as politely as I can, but as firmly as I can, one cannot come before a legislative committee using government money to run a joint venture and say: "This is none of your business. What we pay our people, what we do, what we are developing, how much we intend to make from this project are of no concern to you. All we want the Legislature of Ontario to do is give us money, shut up and sit in a corner."

That is not going to fly. The procedural affairs committee is looking at this problem. I put on the record now that we must find the means whereby we establish the ground rules. When people use public money to go to work in the private sector on a joint venture basis, answers must be given. I accepted once that this was a unique situation and I did not pursue it in a ruthless manner before the procedural affairs committee because we do not do things ruthlessly there. But I think it is time to get tough about it in the House.

I want to close this section by making a comment about two other agencies, one federal and one provincial, that have rankled with me of late. It came to my attention that Petro-Canada, an agency I happened to support some time ago, has adopted a practice of saying it will not sell gasoline to independent dealers. I wrote a letter to my friend Jean Chrétien and told him I did not think too much of a publicly funded gas company saying it will not sell to independent dealers unless they, in effect, become dealers for Petro-Canada.

I also want to say the province's money in Suncor seems to have made little difference because it uses exactly the same criterion. I think there is an obligation, when public money is used in the private sector, to see that those companies function in a slightly different way from the robber barons.

**11:50 a.m.**

In one instance, a fellow by the name of Wally Hawkins runs a small independent gas dealership called Tally-Ho Rona Petroleum Ltd. in Oshawa. The only large corporation that would serve him was Imperial Oil Ltd. Because Imperial is not noted for its benevolence, I wondered exactly why it was servicing him when no one else would. The next day I perhaps discovered the reason. Imperial had just been convicted for not providing gasoline to a little dealer in Waverley, Ontario. Perhaps that explains its benevolence.



I have a number of other matters I would like to get on the record, but I am running out of voice. I am going to close with two things that have been of concern to me. One is the whole field of amateur sport. It has received a bit of attention lately. I want to take a slightly different tack on it.

I believe we have in Ontario and in Canada young people who are world-class athletes. Some of them are that now. Some are four or five years away from it. To show I have a little conflict of interest here, my daughter is one of them. She trains with young people from across Canada, many of whom sadly enough have to go to American universities to continue their training. They have to go there for two or three straightforward reasons.

One is facilities. We still lack a number of those facilities here in Canada for a lot of events. I noticed that Gaetan Boucher was here the other day with the Premier (Mr. Davis). Suddenly, we are going to go from no outdoor rinks for speedskaters to three. Perhaps that says something about how governments operate in Canada.

Many lack a facility in which to train. Even when we build a facility, there can be problems. We have a good one at York University, for example. It is a training facility for a harsh climate. They did a nice job of putting in a track and designing the facilities. They just forgot to put heat in the building.

That poses a minor problem for people who are sprinters and who cannot go through a training season in cold weather with a long succession of pulled muscles. Whoever put it together forgot that a training facility has to be heated in Canada in the winter because it gets cold. One would think they could have picked that up a little quicker than they did, but they missed it.

There is a problem with coaching. There are many people I know who spend long hours coaching young people in Canada for peanuts or for nothing, unlike the Americans or people on the continent of Europe or in other countries around the world where they believe athletics and physical fitness are important. They give it priority, they spend money and they have a consistent and regular training program.

Things like sports medicine are not a bright new experimental project announced by the ministry, but are part of their daily training routine. The finest medical facilities they have are available to their athletes.

We do card athletes, which is a little practice that tries to keep them in Canada. I do not know how we expect people to get to a world-class

level and then card them. How do they ever get there? How do they improve from being provincial or Canadian champions to being world champions if the kids are expected to do it all on their own?

It seems to me that is an extremely short-sighted program. What we ought to be trying to do now is to identify good athletes at an early age, support them with training facilities, medical facilities and coaching, and find the mechanism to keep those kids in Canada. You can go through the United States and at every major university you will find a track star who is a Canadian. The people we are proudest of are people like Milt Ottey, who comes back to Canada and represents Canada but goes to school in Texas. Why can those people not go to school here? We know what the problems are; we just have not done anything about them.

Let me speak for a couple of minutes about the auto industry because I am from Oshawa and it would not be fair for me to talk without talking about my favourite sport. Everybody is an expert on the auto industry. It has been studied to death. It is currently in a revival period. I listened to the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) today say that production is up and the auto industry is back on its feet.

I wish that were true, but it is not and we know it. We know the auto industry is cyclical in nature. It is going great guns now, but the fundamental problems for parts manufacturers are still there and getting worse every day. The fundamental problems in marketing are still there, exist every day and are getting worse. The fundamental problems of Canadian content are still there and getting worse. The short-term quick fixes such as quotas are not working any more.

As a matter of fact, I saw an interesting article the other day which was done for the Japanese auto manufacturers. It said they should all be very grateful about Canadian and American quotas on Japanese cars because they made them exclusive products. The quotas allowed them to raise their price and hold it. The demand system had done a lot for them. All the publicity about the Japanese automobile industry had done a lot for their sales. They were kind of grateful about quotas.

I thought we had a handle on this a year ago. I thought we had a joint task force report endorsed by the union people, the parts people and the major manufacturers and supported by this government. I thought surely we had come to grips with the long-term problems in the auto industry.



That report is deadlier than a doornail. That is a shame because one or two years from now, or whenever the next downturn happens in the auto industry, they will all be crying that we have done nothing. It will be true. But the sad part is that this will not have been because we did not know what to do but simply because we lacked the political will to do anything.

I want to touch on a couple of things before I close. We have been exposed to a great deal of hoopla—that is the polite word—about our non-existent bicentennial. As someone who has studied history for a while, I always get upset when somebody changes history around for political purposes. I guess it is at the point where one can hardly complain about the bicentennial celebrations this year. I am not sure what we are celebrating except that it is a celebration and I have never been one to turn down a party in my life. So I am happy to participate in a tree-planting next week and probably a picnic in the summer.

I know this is no longer an occasion to celebrate the arrival of the Loyalists in Canada. That was put forth as the reason at the beginning of this, but that is long gone. It is now a celebration of everybody coming here whenever they did, which is okay by me too. Most of all I will be celebrating these events because I understand the process a little better than I did when I first arrived here.

We are in phase one of the next election period. This is the part where everybody trots around with the cheques. This is the part where everybody gets a little button, a banner, a book, a flag or whatever it is. This government understands very clearly the process of getting elected in Ontario and is at work at it.

**Mr. Stokes:** If you want a party, have it. If you want a job, forget it.

**Mr. Breagh:** Yes, we are having a party this year. It will be going on and on. The best way to make people forget they are unemployed and do not have much of a chance to get work is to invite them to a party. So a part of this is that Her Majesty the Queen is coming over. Of course, we will all become monarchists for a short period of time and celebrate that event. Then Pope John Paul II is coming over and we will all become Catholics for a time and we will all celebrate that.

All these wonderful events will be done in a fit and proper way to convince the people of Ontario there really is no problem here. Unemployment is beside the point. The real purpose in life this year is to help celebrate something; the government will tell people what later on. We will have

a good time and we will get something for nothing.

The bottom line of that for me is going to be that we should all try to have a good time. There is no question about that. We should all celebrate whatever it is we are celebrating, but we should not forget there are basic structural problems in our economy, that there is a lot of pain in Oshawa these days. There are people who are poor, and it is not nice to be poor. There are people out of work. They are tired and frustrated and they do not have in the foreseeable future a chance to recover, and they should have.

Phase two in this pre-election period will probably happen sometime this fall. I anticipate we will open up some more tech centres. It seems to me that is trendy enough to continue for a while. I do not know what the technology will be about, but I am sure there will be more tech centres around.

I hope the government produces something a little more substantial than the existing tech centres. They are nice, they are interesting to look at and they put out very good annual reports—flashy, glossy and all that. They provide good jobs for some Tories here and there. That is all nice stuff. I do not object to any of that, but I would like the tech centres to serve a function in our industrial sector. They do not do that.

## 12 noon

I would imagine, too, that sometime this fall the Premier will don his Argo jacket, dance with the Sunshine Girls down at the lake and announce that the Bill Davis memorial domed stadium is going to happen. He probably will not announce how much it is going to cost. Again, it is ironic that in the midst of all these economic problems, in the midst of this unemployment, especially among young people where it is at an all-time high, the Premier's personal goal in life is to be able to light his pipe down by the lake without the wind blowing it out. Maybe we will frustrate him, because we will probably pass a bylaw against smoking inside the domed stadium; it will probably drive him right out of politics.

I know we are in an pre-election period. I anticipate this session of the Legislature will be a short, quiet snort, because the real agenda of the speech from the throne may not have been quite explicit in the one read by the Lieutenant Governor; the real agenda for this session of the Legislature is to get ready for the next provincial election. The government will be heading away from controversial items like people who are out of work and people who are poor, and will be



heading right into the midst of the mire of celebration that will occur during this year.

That is a sad comment on our political process, but I believe it to be true, and that is why I will not support this speech from the throne and I will support the amendments that have been put forward by my leader.

**Mr. Shymko:** Mr. Speaker, I listened diligently to the remarks from the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breagh) about not supporting the speech from the throne, and I will refer to the aspect of the support from the third party in a minute.

In preparing ourselves for this session and for the year ahead, we have debated a great number of issues, as we are all aware. Some of our discussions have been constructive and thought-provoking; others clearly were controversial and divisive.

To this I say, so much the better. Where better to participate in a spirited exchange of ideas than in the Legislature? The more heated our debates, the more I am reminded we live in a nation that has served as a beacon of democracy, freedom and prosperity to those trapped in rigid, less tolerant and less prosperous societies.

Therefore, in rising to speak on the speech from the throne debate today I would like first to express my own personal delight in participating in this democratic process.

Second, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the members of the opposition for the very essential part they play in our great political tradition. I will refer to some of their proposals with the same critical scrutiny as they apply to my government's proposals.

In regard to the concluding remarks of the member for Oshawa, I would like to congratulate the third party for the public recognition and support they stated in a communiqué issued on March 20, 1984, a few minutes after we left this chamber. It says: "We in the New Democratic Party agree enthusiastically and wholeheartedly with 50 per cent of this throne speech, namely, the aims, the goals and ideals so glowingly expressed throughout its pages."

When the NDP members publicly agree with 50 per cent of our proposals, we understand the political implications. When they agree with 50 per cent of these proposals in public, it means that privately they agree with 100 per cent. Politically they cannot say this; they have to say 50 per cent. But it means that realistically and privately it is 90 per cent, if not close to 100 per cent.

I congratulate the members of the third party at least for agreeing realistically, rationally, reason-

ably, moderately and publicly with one half of the contents of the speech from the throne.

The issue I wish to address today is one that is sure to bring a spirited exchange of ideas; it is the role and the place of young people in our changing society. This in no way diminishes the priorities of services and policies this government offers to our senior citizens.

I want to welcome today representatives in the gallery of the great riding of Sarnia, retirees from Sarnia north who are here today to listen to this spirited exchange of ideas.

Let me get straight to the point. It is obvious to all of us that the young stand out as the group hardest hit by the changing state of our economy. Young people today are more vulnerable to employment than are other population groups. In times when the economy is sluggish, they tend to be the last hired. They are also the least prepared to find available jobs. Many are unemployed because they are not qualified for job markets. Ironically, there are employers who are starved for skilled tradesmen and specialists today.

John Roth, a Bell-Northern Research Ltd. executive, believes the manpower mismatch persists because, as he says, "We have yet to recognize the problem for what it really is, namely, a national problem." His organization will require an extra 3,000 people by 1986. Simply expressed, it is a complex situation. On the one hand, business needs skilled workers and, on the other hand, workers need skills, particularly young workers. The future well-being of our society demands what I would call the union or fusion of the two.

There are legitimate causes for concern on all sides of the issue, from the young person who wants to work but lacks the skills to the employer who sees his business suffer and educators and policymakers such as ourselves who are expected to play a key role in resolving these contradictions.

The most tragic aspect of this dilemma arises when young people are deprived of what makes modern life meaningful; that is, a job. No caring society can settle for a situation where its young people are unable to fulfil themselves as well as make a contribution to society. Certainly our society cannot, nor will it.

I am well aware of the constant criticism and alternative solutions put forth by the parties opposite. I am familiar with the detailed proposals that both the Liberals and the New Democratic Party recently advocated to aid youth unemployment and to further skills training. I want to assure members opposite that the government is



always receptive to positive and helpful suggestions.

**Mr. Bradley:** It will steal all the ideas.

**Mr. Shymko:** It is not stealing ideas. That is what democracy is all about. However, in this case the government believes the programs already in place and the coming changes in youth services delivery will prove to be more cost-effective, more general and universal in scope and better designed to take advantage of job opportunities in the private sector than the proposals of the opposition. The members opposite know that.

Let us have no illusions. Let us not con our citizens by saying this government and the public sector will provide the answers. This is not the reality nor the answer. The answer lies in the private sector, in our small businesses, in our manufacturing industry and outside. To tell the people we have the answer is misinformation.

**12:10 p.m.**

**Mr. Bradley:** The only industry that is booming in this province is advertising.

**Mr. Shymko:** I will not use any other word. The member knows that.

I would like to digress for just a minute to address some of the proposals that have been advocated by members of the opposition, and specifically the Liberal Party. Last year, 1983, will be remembered as the year the Liberals all of a sudden discovered pornography and youth unemployment. We never heard any comments from them before, but all of a sudden in 1983 the Liberals discovered youth unemployment. That it has taken them so long to do so tells us something about the acuity of their social and political senses and about their policymaking process. Perhaps I am being unfair.

**Mr. Bradley:** You are; absolutely. The Premier (Mr. Davis) did not discover it until 1984, and you know it.

**Mr. Shymko:** It hurts. Perhaps I should heed the words of the member for London Centre (Mr. Peterson). I will quote him: "Go very gently on the negative stuff."

To their credit, in the case of youth unemployment the Liberals have taken the time to analyse the problem and to formulate in advance what they consider to be a viable solution to that problem. This must be regarded as a very positive development, and I acknowledge that; we all do. It is a change from what I have personally come to expect from those champions of negativism across the aisle.

However, I must also confess to a certain sense of disappointment with the Liberal proposals. I would have expected that having taken considerable time to formulate their policies, be it on youth unemployment or pornography, the official opposition would have come forward with something more than a pale replica or a shadow of government policy. That is all it is. While I am sure we appreciate their support, I regret that we must reject their advice.

We saw the proposal before this House last session from the member for Renfrew North (Mr. Conway), claiming that existing government policy is inadequate and urging us to endorse the so-called Liberal alternative called A Plan for Youth. I do not agree with the claim that existing policies are inadequate. Furthermore, I have reviewed the Liberal so-called plan for youth as set out in the pamphlet entitled Let's Give Our Young People A Chance. I would submit that their grand design, if adopted, would represent a great leap backwards in our efforts to deal with this most vital issue.

No one would dispute the claim that youth unemployment is a grave social and economic problem. One need not indulge in any overheated rhetoric about "a lost generation" or "a generation without hope" to affirm a recognition of that fact.

This government recognizes those facts. This government has implemented programs designed to address the problem of youth unemployment squarely, efficiently and realistically. These programs, although they are targeted on youth, reflect this government's commitment to resolve this matter in the broader context of general employment promotion and support for the job creation potential of the private sector.

Some indication of this government's commitment to help the youth of this province deal with the unemployment problem can be had from what the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) told the Royal Commission on Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada: "Expenditures on job creation programs for youth by Ontario are about the same magnitude as the total federal commitment to youth employment programs for the entire country." The leaders of Her Majesty's loyal opposition know this. It is equal to the federal commitment for the entire nation. That is what our commitment for youth unemployment is all about.

I urge the members opposite to take a look at the example of the well-integrated programs of this province and those of the federal government, as printed by the Provincial Secretariat for



Social Development. That shows the figure. They should take a look at our commitment and stop the platitudes.

The members will know that in its December 7 speech from the throne, the federal government indicated it would be expanding its youth job creation efforts. Finally, looking at Ontario, they have realized it is time to address the issue, which they had ignored to this time, as the members of the opposition have, having discovered the problem in 1983 as if it had not existed before.

Certainly we compliment that decision and that discovery, but it remains to be seen how quickly the federal government will follow through on this very important commitment.

**Mr. Bradley:** What you are saying is not true.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Shymko:** I personally hope they will consult with the provinces of this nation on funding allocations so we can co-ordinate programs and gain the maximum benefit from these resources.

I would like to continue in the other official language of this country.

M. le Président, une coopération intergouvernementale constructive est aussi un élément essentiel si l'on veut assurer la relève économique et rétablir la confiance au sein de la population.

C'est dans cet esprit que mon gouvernement prie, une fois de plus, le premier ministre du Canada de convoquer, le plus tôt possible, une réunion des premiers ministres de toutes les provinces pour discuter de l'économie. Une pareille réunion pourrait servir à tracer la voie et à suivre une vue, une voix, une trace en vue d'un redressement économique diversifié durant le reste de la décennie.

Nous devons donner son élan au climat d'optimisme qui commence à se manifester; notre population n'en mérite pas moins. La création récente par le gouvernement fédéral de la Commission royale d'enquête sur l'union économique et les perspectives du développement du Canada est une heureuse initiative. Mais nous ne pouvons compter uniquement sur ses travaux à long terme pour favoriser une reprise économique durable.

Alors, pour conclure, en français je voudrais dire qu'il faut accroître la coopération entre les gouvernements fédéral et provincial dès maintenant.

We have invested in solutions to this problem; we have made great investments. We have invested in programs that have proved effective. Time does not permit a full review of our youth

employment programs; however, I would like to provide the members with some figures that will illustrate the level of government involvement in this area and our support for our youth employment programs.

In 1983-84 this government will support the operation of eight employment programs focused on youth. These programs will receive \$121 million in public funds and will create 100,700 jobs for youth in this province. I do not mean part-time employment; I mean year-round programs that are in effect, and that is a commitment.

I would like to add that these programs are effective, they are realistic and they certainly stress the importance of the private sector in providing the answers. While these programs cannot in themselves totally eliminate the problem—and we certainly do not have any illusions—they have, I believe, greatly assisted the youth of Ontario to cope in a very difficult economic period.

I know the official opposition will reject this view; it is part of the political process, I imagine. Instead, they recommend that we adopt a two-year program that would cost up to \$139 million a year and serve only approximately 14,000 young people between the ages of 18 and 24.

This is so-called Liberal economy at its best. The Ontario Liberal Party is apparently afflicted with the same malady that has so long plagued its federal colleagues. It is a strange disease, which leads to the delusion that it is sound policy to spend more and get less. That is what it is all about; that is all it is. If their program had been put in place this year, it would have cost the youth of Ontario, by comparison with this government's program, 86,700 job opportunities. When I say "cost," I mean lost.

**12:20 p.m.**

That is the difference between the 100,700 jobs our programs will create in 1983-84 and the 14,000 jobs their program would produce. Furthermore, the elimination of these 86,000 jobs would cost the taxpayers of this province \$18 million more than the government would spend to create our own jobs.

They are asking the taxpayers of this province to spend about \$210 on every job lost through their program. That is Liberal logic for you. This is not a job creation program; it is a job elimination program.

**Mr. Bradley:** What a silly speech.



**Mr. Shymko:** Read it again and you will see how silly it is in the public perception of your proposals.

I want to say to the members opposite we are missing the point if all we argue about is how much money we will spend and how many more programs we will be creating to aid our youth. The crucial question which should be addressed is more far-reaching than this simple debate on how many programs and how much money.

The questions that are crucial, in my opinion, are the following. Are we prepared to tackle youth unemployment and skills training in a serious and concerted way? Are we prepared to accept that the issues concerning youth are connected with other phenomena within our society? Are we prepared to view youth education and training in the universal perspective of our economic policy as well as in the context of our social development?

I believe our task as policymakers is to concentrate on clearly defining the problems and on increasing awareness of the work and creative energies that are required to bring about the necessary realignment between jobs and skills.

How can we solve the problem of unemployed and unskilled youth and ensure it will not be a problem in the decades ahead? Obviously the ultimate answer is an economy that has a significantly higher employment-generating capacity than exists at present. At the same time, one of the factors that can aid in improving our economy is training skilled persons, training them in greater numbers, training them better and training them more efficiently.

Unfortunately, planning for the future is a very risky business, as we all know. The world of the 1980s and beyond will not demonstrate the regularity of earlier decades; the only thing that can be predicted with absolute certainty is the fact that there will be ultimate uncertainty in the future. Nevertheless, we must be informed; we must make assessments about the future. From these assessments we can develop a model of the changing reality that is obviously confronting us today and will confront us in the years ahead.

One of the sure things about tomorrow's job markets is that there will be major shifts in employment patterns. There are also certain trends that we know have to be taken into account, which the members opposite dismiss totally.

Let me mention some of these trends. The first includes the changes in our industrial structures; the second is the altered pattern of trade in the increasingly competitive international market-

place. The accelerated pace of technological change, the growing domination of technology related to manufacturing and resource production by less developed countries, and competition from advanced countries are transforming the economies of Canada and Ontario. All you have to do to see that competition is to shop. Read the problems of our General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva and you will see the complexity of the issue.

The third trend we must take into account is the changing demographic pattern which is adding more young people as well as women to the labour force. It is our responsibility to recognize the legitimate needs and aspirations of this emerging labour force.

Superseding all of the above is the fact that we as a society are moving from an industrial economy to one based on information. Some members may have followed the excellent programs on TVOntario on this whole question of the future labour force and the challenges of the future. We are moving at an unprecedented pace to a total transformation of the labour force, to an economy that will be based on information, on high technology and on communications.

Consequently, the most effective force in the world today is the acquisition of knowledge in the form of information, communications skills and new technology. Those nations that place emphasis on the search for this kind of knowledge will be the leaders in the late 20th century and early 21st century. We see this happening in Japan. We do not see it happening in the developed countries, but in the developing countries that have adapted to the needs of the future.

I would like to reaffirm that in this rapidly changing new society and new economy, technical education will play a special role, as will that of retraining. If Canada and Ontario are to retain their competitive status on world markets, innovative manufactured goods will have to be produced. To produce these goods we will need skilled persons to design, operate and maintain Canada's manufacturing sector.

Universities and colleges will have to train youth to be engineers, business graduates and technologists. They will have to develop the skills essential for the development of a new technology and for the innovation and diffusion of such technology. We only have to look at the growth of business centres around the important learning centres in Boston and the Silicon Valley in the United States to realize the importance of



educational institutions and the role they will play in future technological development.

Experts today seem to think increased automation will mean less work on production lines but more work in the background making sure the production lines run. In its annual report for 1981, the Public Service Commission of Canada observed that a high percentage of skilled blue-collar workers in Canada are now over 40 years of age, a very high and increasing percentage, and very few Canadians are entering blue-collar trades. While in Ottawa in 1978, I recall a statistic for that year, "Seventy-six per cent of our skilled workers in Canada are foreign born and foreign trained."

I would like to point out some of the reasons for skills shortages among our youth today. First, some analysts say the reluctance of young people to consider trades as a possible career is one factor that has influenced the gap between skills and jobs. Second, a not strong enough commitment to training on the part of our employers is a contributing factor. Third, there is a lack of flexibility in some of our training systems and in labour-management relations that affect these, and the unions will have to realize this. Fourth, there are inadequacies in our labour market information, which should be helping us to match educational output with industry's needs.

As far as education is concerned, computational and communications skills will become increasingly important in the years ahead. A complaint voiced by employers today—one hears it on the radio and on television—relates to the lack of communications skills of high school and university graduates. In an information-based economy the ability to communicate will be vital. So will a solid foundation in the sciences, especially physics and chemistry.

Kids are not dumb, and they realize it. One sees the trends in subjects that are already taken as options and choices in grades 12 and 13. One sees the fluctuation and the changing patterns in the universities and colleges. Subjects will have to be more integrated, which implies changing the role of teachers. The artificial barriers between education and work will have to be dismantled totally, as will the present distinctions between disciplines. Our learning institutions will have to develop greater adaptability if they are to remain relevant to the individual and to the society they serve. Retraining will have to play a bigger and bigger role.

12:30 p.m.

Alvin Toffler, in his book *The Third Wave*, predicts that in order to keep up with shifting

market demands in the future, education will be continuous and continual, it will be a life-long process no longer bound to the traditional educational concepts we see today nor to the traditional years of schooling. We all know it is very difficult to forecast specific manpower requirements for the future. I would like to say the most essential skill which will have to be taught will be the ability to change.

Edward Wrapp stated in a Harvard Business Review article that the mark of a good future citizen will be, "a high tolerance for ambiguity." I do not mean I want to refer to the virtues and qualities of members on our side, such as the high degree of tolerance for ambiguity as we listen to the proposals from members opposite, but to prepare students for the work place of the 1990s will require not only a new blueprint for the future but also a capacity to adapt.

Our young people will have to be taught specific skills in such areas as computer literacy, as well as generic skills which will allow them to adapt to changing requirements. In terms of specific skills, I would like to stress that no educational program will be able to succeed without meaningful and substantial input from labour, and I refer to our unions, from management, or without the support of government. Closer co-operation will be necessary between the educational system and industry. Schools will have to act as information brokers between those who need information and those who have it.

Industry will have to play a vital role in the new educational process. They cannot sit back and simply watch the inconsistencies and the inadequacies. Employers and employees will have to be more open in articulating their needs. Industries could, for example, develop their production planning and skills development planning simultaneously so that a skilled work force could be developed before a new piece of equipment goes into production. They could invest in skills development the way they invest in research and development. They could communicate with governments and with educational institutions which, in turn, could supply them with skilled employees.

My government is prepared to deal with the transformation of Ontario's economy. Its top priorities include human resources and industry policies to encourage new technologies. This government's long-term policy direction in human resources includes focusing on the skills of development of our citizens, retraining existing manpower to adapt to changing technology,



achieving closer ties between educational institutions and the needs of the work place.

I cannot go into all the details but I want to compliment the Minister of Education and Colleges and Universities (Miss Stephenson) for her initiatives in this area.

The member for St. Catharines (Mr. Bradley) may laugh. We understand, because he recognizes that serious initiatives have been taken and he will see the results very soon.

**Mr. Bradley:** Totally inadequate initiatives.

**Mr. Shymko:** The honourable member is snickering and laughing at my statement. Just to give him some examples, Ontario's 22 community colleges have more than 700 training programs in high-technology areas today; and he laughs, he snickers.

**Mr. Bradley:** Tell that to the young unemployed of this province.

**Mr. Shymko:** The training in business and industry program and the Ontario training incentive for employers program are initiatives particularly designed to support firms to train their employees. The sum of \$6 million has been provided for OTIP and \$9.4 million for TIBI in the first, second and third phases.

**Mr. Nixon:** TIBI?

**Mr. Shymko:** Yes, TIBI. The member does not even know what I am talking about.

**Mr. Nixon:** Is the member serious?

**Mr. Shymko:** That is right.

**Mr. Bradley:** Watch how you pronounce that one.

**Mr. Shymko:** It is the Ontario training incentive program, OTIP—the member knows what it is—to integrate and match training with the industrial needs.

Let us refer to the linkage program. The members opposite are very familiar with the linkage program, which was established back in 1979 before I was honoured to be a member of this Legislature. This program attempts to synthesize educational programs to integrate them into a continuum of learning experiences.

**Mr. Bradley:** Jargon.

**Mr. Shymko:** Jargon, the member says.

It enables young people to achieve in secondary schools competencies which prepare them for further careers. It prepares them through colleges and industrial programs in place.

The Ontario career action program—probably we will hear more snickering in a minute—is another of the responses to youth unemployment.

**Mr. Bradley:** A good program.

**Mr. Shymko:** A year-round program, a good program. It may need more money. There is a commitment. The member has heard of commitments. Through this program, the provincial government finances co-operation between community colleges and employers to give people between the ages of 16 and 25 work experience without direct cost to the employer when no paying jobs are open. The colleges recruit the candidates. They find the employers and they supervise the training.

In 1983, 14,000 such positions were available to our young people. Instead of throwing this in the waste paper basket—I do not know what he does with this—the member should take a look at the description of all the programs I have listed. He should compare the federal programs with the Ontario government programs. He will see a description of our young Ontario career program for 1984, which is expected to provide 12,500 jobs for young people between the ages of 15 and 29. I refer here to year-round programs, not to summer programs or part-time jobs.

In 1983-84, government funding for operational and capital grants and Board of Industrial Leadership and Development programs to support post-secondary institutions totalled \$2.5 billion, and he says it is not enough. Those members who are fearful and critical of possible changes in our educational institutions should remember we live in a globally interconnected world in which economics, educational and social phenomena are interdependent.

In today's world, education must of necessity be tied to changing economic structures. They will not admit our learning institutions must take the lead in adapting to future changes. These institutions also have to take the lead in changing traditional attitudes. The future will not only be full of this continuity and change, it will also be one of great opportunity. We are not negative. We are not pessimists. We accept these opportunities in a positive vein, with confidence and trust in our free enterprise system, in the private sector and in the policies and programs initiated by this government and wise and intelligent proposals on the part of the opposition.

Let us look back 100 years. In looking at the problems facing us today, we forget that a century ago Canada also faced and conquered the economic transformation taking place at the time. In the Canada of the 1880s, the newspapers were full of accounts of how tough the times were. The issues familiar to us today were relevant in the 1880s: national tensions, economic



stress, technological apprehension. Unemployment seemed alarmingly high. Ontario industries seemingly could not compete.

The narrowly trained craftsmen in their seven-year apprenticeships were losing out to the new technologies of the day. The livelihoods of the coopers, the glass blowers, the iron moulders, the stove mounters, were threatened at the time by developments in electricity, central heating, by innovations in the printing industry, etc.

As it turned out, Ontarians of a century ago used their skills and knowledge to restructure the economy, to industrialize the province, to expand opportunities and to improve the living standard of its citizens. I think we can do well in the 1980s. We all recognize the need for changes. We must exercise the initiatives and courage to carry them out. We must devote ourselves collectively as a society to ensure that no talent goes unused and that no life is short-changed.

**12:40 p.m.**

In conclusion, I believe through awareness, co-operation and will, individual destinies and society's needs can be joined for the enrichment of all of us. I firmly believe we have the societal conditions and the kind of government necessary to provide a framework for achieving a satisfying existence for the individuals in our society while coming to terms with the challenges that new technology will bring us.

**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, I thank the member for High Park-Swansea (Mr. Shymko) for being kind enough to leave approximately 17 or 18 minutes for a few remarks this afternoon, although I would have preferred a couple of hours to speak about the many challenges confronting Ontario today after 41 years of rule by the Progressive Conservative Party.

I found it encouraging that the member on the government side spent much of his time at the beginning talking about a job program proposal from an opposition party. I think it is significant that we have not had those kinds of initiatives from the government. When the government provides programs such as the Ontario career action program, which is a good program—in my view, it is an excellent program and it has been very helpful—it simply does not fund them adequately and provide those opportunities that are essential for young people who are unemployed in this province.

I think it is significant that the member would spend so much of his speech talking about the proposals of the opposition at a time when his

government has put forward a program of so-called action in the speech from the throne.

**Mr. Shymko:** The member misinterprets.

**Mr. Bradley:** I thought the member would probably feel I was misinterpreting, but after listening to his lengthy remarks about the opposition proposals and the opposition in general, the word "misinterpretation" is one that could be easily applied. Nevertheless, I do appreciate the fact that he did take that time out.

I would recall to him, and this is of most concern to me as a member of this Legislature, that with the bicentennial and all these other great things going on in Ontario, the Premier (Mr. Davis) of this province addressed in a serious manner the problem of youth unemployment only in March 1984. In late February 1984 he made an address, I believe, to the Empire Club, where the cameras got a close-up of him showing his great concern for the young people who are unemployed in this province.

In my view, it is just not satisfactory that the Premier of a major province such as Ontario would not discover that there is a serious problem with youth unemployment, or at least admit that there is a serious problem with youth unemployment, until March 1984, when we in the opposition have been pointing out for years the problems that would arise and the problems that now exist.

In fairness to us—and I think the member for High Park-Swansea has been fair in saying this—we in the official opposition and, I think, those in the third party as well have not simply played a role of criticizing but have tried to provide some alternative proposals, which should be subjected to the kind of analysis and criticism the member has put forward. While I do not agree with him, I think this kind of public debate is useful in providing some answers.

Because of the limited amount of time that is available, I want to dwell simply on a few subjects. One that the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breaugh) dealt with during his remarks is a pet project of mine, and that is the electronic Hansard of this, the provincial Legislature of Ontario.

We have television cameras at present, of course, and we have had them for some time—newsreel cameras that are up in the Speaker's gallery. I think they provide a very useful service for us. They allow the members of the press gallery who are from the visual electronic media to pan across the members of the Legislature, to look at some of the activities going on in here and to get some different angles



on what is going on in the Ontario Legislature. I do not think anyone here would propose we remove those cameras.

Indeed, when we talk about putting in two additional cameras—those we see on the east and west sides of the chamber, for instance, for the throne speech, which is a big government show, or the budget, which is another big government show—it is very reasonable to have those in addition to the other cameras.

It is reasonable to have them for a couple of reasons. Technically speaking, they provide better shots of both the government side and the opposition side in order to see the people who are delivering the message in the House or asking questions. Also, it provides for the electronic Hansard the full televising of the entire question period and other important debates.

The member for Algoma-Manitoulin (Mr. Lane), for instance, might well have a question at some time or other of a minister about a regional subject that is important to the people in his part of the province. I venture to say that question would likely come somewhere near the end of the question period because the government members are usually good enough to permit the opposition, whose primary role is to ask questions, to have pre-eminence in asking them.

Let us say the member for Algoma-Manitoulin or the member for Cambridge (Mr. Barlow) or any other member in this House who is a government member or an opposition member has a question of some regional importance. It will be placed down on the list of questions in terms of priorities in the House because we look at province-wide issues first. It may well be the cameras will have left the gallery to go out in the scrum. Perhaps 35, 40 or 45 minutes into the question period those cameras are disassembled and taken down into the hallway.

The people of Algoma-Manitoulin, in my view, should know their member is prepared to raise an issue of importance to that area of the province, and there should be televising of that particular question.

**Mr. Barlow:** Never any doubt about that.

**Mr. Bradley:** Or Cambridge.

It may not carry in the Toronto electronic media, but it is important to the people in that part of the province. I think it is important as well that the full question and the full answer be provided to the people in the member's area so his constituents would know exactly what is going on. There are a lot of advantages to that. We have a federal House that is fully televised and we have municipal councils that are fully televised.

It is my view the people of this province have a right to that access to their legislators. It takes only two additional cameras to provide it.

Some important debates take place in this Legislature. Not all the debates are scintillating, as I am the first to admit. It would probably be unreasonable for the cameras to be rolling or at least for local stations to pick up the throne speech debate on Friday afternoon, for instance. But many important debates do take place in this House, and I think people should be able to look at them with some interest.

The Minister of Citizenship and Culture (Ms. Fish) is here. There are a lot of people in the cultural community who might well be interested in a debate on things that affect theatres or other cultural organizations in this province. They can come to Queen's Park, but if they are in Sudbury, Ottawa or somewhere else, access is not there. If TVOntario were covering a debate of that kind, I am not going to say all the people in the province are going to be glued to their television sets, but those with that special interest are going to be here to watch that. I think it is an advantage to those of us who serve and, more important, an advantage to those we serve in this province.

I think it is reasonable that we have opposition to this. I fully expect there are going to be many members on the government side who are going to oppose it because it will give more access to the opposition. Let us face it; what a minister says is often considered to be more important than what a member of the opposition has to say, if that member is not the leader of a party, or what another member of the governing side has to say.

We see the Minister of Citizenship and Culture on television or the Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Mr. Dean) or others who have important things to say. There are many others who serve in this Legislature who do not have that same access and who would have that access through full televising of major debates in this House and of question period. I expect there will be some people on the government side who are opposed. There are probably many in the federal government who are sorry they acquiesced to having television cameras come in because they have provided opposition members with almost equal access in terms of the visual electronic media in the federal House.

**12:50 p.m.**

What is most disappointing is where the other opposition came from. When last year's president of the press gallery makes a presentation to the Board of Internal Economy outlining on behalf of the press gallery his reasons for not



having an electronic Hansard in this House, that disturbs me considerably. I think we have a lot of very good people in the press gallery who provide an excellent service for the people of this province in describing and analysing what happens in this House.

I thought those in the news media would have defended the right to complete access to the legislators. To a certain extent, our people can evaluate our constituency contribution. We can go to the banquets and they can say, "He is a good speaker," "She is a bad speaker," or whatever happens to be the case. They can make those evaluations.

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** She is a good speaker. He is a bad speaker.

**Mr. Bradley:** I was looking at the Minister of Citizenship and Culture (Ms. Fish) when I said that, and that is what brought it to mind. I could have reversed it if I had been talking about the member for Hamilton Centre (Ms. Copps). We always have to be kind to those government ministers. We cannot be too critical because they have this awesome power over our constituencies. We have to throw the odd compliment the way of the Minister of Citizenship and Culture. Of course, I was referring to one of her bad days, not one of her better days when she would be an excellent speaker we would all want to listen to.

The one aspect of our job that probably cannot be successfully analysed and on which the people cannot place an evaluation is the legislative end of things, our legislative performance. Direct access for the people of Ontario would be very useful. I am hopeful we will have not only the acquiescence and agreement of the government, but a change of the official position of the press gallery on this item to provide that full access, in addition to the excellent service they provide for the people of Ontario.

I want to talk about something else in the next five minutes because we do not get a chance to talk about the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. here. The government neglected to mention the CBC in its speech from the throne. I wonder why. Related to the first subject we talked about, I want to talk about a program I consider to be a top-notch program on CBC radio, a program called Morningside. Peter Gzowski is the host of that program.

One of its aspects that I consider particularly enlightening to those of us with a special interest in politics is the Tuesday morning session with the three wise men. They have Dalton Camp of the Progressive Conservative Party, Eric Kierans, a one-time Liberal—I do not know what he is

now—and Stephen Lewis, who makes an interesting contribution on all occasions. I like the contributions they make, although I do not always agree. They contribute to the political process because three points of view are presented by people I think most of us respect. We do not always agree, but we respect them.

Let us look at the provincial situation. I want to relate it to provincial politics. When we are talking about the Ontario report, that same program has as its participants Mr. Hugh Segal, who is so close to the Premier that he could almost be sitting on his knee, and Michele Landsberg, who in olden days we might have referred to as Mrs. Stephen Lewis, but today we do not refer to a person as Mrs. Stephen Lewis if she wishes to be known as Michele Landsberg.

Michele Landsberg is an excellent journalist and a person whose opinions are interesting to hear. Nevertheless, I think she brings a socialist view to that program. That is fine. I think the program should have that. Obviously, Hugh Segal speaks for the government. I do not see any independence in his remarks at all.

**Mr. McClellan:** Who speaks for those who cannot speak for themselves?

**Mr. Bradley:** The member for Bellwood leads into this. What is missing and what the producer of that program obviously does not understand is that we have a three-party system in the province and there is no spokesperson for the Liberal point of view on that program. I consider it to be extremely unfair that the party which received 31 per cent of the vote in the last provincial election, has 33 seats, forms the official opposition, has such a strong tradition in the province and makes such a significant contribution is excluded from participating by the producer of that program.

I think even fair-minded people on the government side and in the New Democratic Party would agree that someone such as the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon), the former Leader of the Opposition, would be an excellent person to contribute to this program.

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Nixon for leader. Is he a Liberal?

**Mr. Nixon:** I do not want the job. I am busy enough doing just what I am doing.

**Mr. Bradley:** I think he is a Liberal and I think that would be a reasonable contribution to make, as the Speaker would agree.

What I am saying is this works in favour of the government's little trick of saying, "We are the choice" or "It is the socialist hordes." They say



one of the two. That is the choice they present to the people.

**Mr. Nixon:** Not much of a horde today.

**Mr. Bradley:** All two of the hordes who are here this afternoon know they are not socialist hordes at all. However, the point I make for members of this House is that a publicly funded network, the CBC, should know better than to present only two points of view on a major program which deals with an Ontario report. It is extremely unfair. It cannot be justified and yet nothing seems to be done about it. I keep getting letters from my constituents and telephone calls from people who are great fans of Morningside, who say, "How can this unfortunate and unfair practice be perpetuated indefinitely?"

I hope the president of CBC and the producer of this program read Hansard and that we have a rectification of this unfair practice at the earliest opportunity.

I could probably go on at great length on the many problems that are pointed to in the throne speech. It is really a list of items this government has neglected over the years. As it approaches an election, with its \$50-million advertising budget, it will then—

**Mr. Shymko:** Fifty per cent is to support the NDP.

**Mr. Nixon:** Well, they are bought and paid for.

**Mr. Shymko:** Give us the other 50 per cent.

**Mr. Bradley:** I expect it would have 50 per cent. The government pays for 30 members when there are 22. It is similar to the situation when the public accounts committee found the Ontario Waste Management Corp. had bought 22 chairs for seven people. I pointed out to them we already have that formula established, and it is 30 chairs for 22 people at \$761 a chair.

I could discuss many of these items, but I see the time of adjournment today is quickly approaching and I know the windup speakers, at least from the official opposition, will provide some enlightenment for this province.

We will probably have the usual ranting of the Premier (Mr. Davis), who will berate the opposition and gloat, as he did when he wound up the budget debate in one of the worst speeches I have ever heard from the Premier of this province, who has made some statesmanlike speeches from time to time. I thought on the last day of our sitting last time that the Premier expressed himself in a pretty unfortunate way. His words were condescending and partisan, unlike those of the opposition.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you very much for your toleration. I am going to move the adjournment of the debate.

On motion by Mr. Bradley, the debate was adjourned.

The House adjourned at 1 p.m.

**APPENDIX**  
**ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS\***  
 (125 members)

Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament

**Lieutenant Governor: Hon. J. B. Aird, OC, QC**

**Speaker: Hon. John M. Turner**

**Clerk of the House: Roderick Lewis, QC**

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|---|---|
| <p>Allen, R. (Hamilton West NDP)</p> <p><b>Andrewes, Hon. P. W.</b>, Minister of Energy (Lincoln PC)</p> <p><b>Ashe, Hon. G. L.</b>, Minister of Government Services (Durham West PC)</p> <p><b>Baetz, Hon. R. C.</b>, Minister of Tourism and Recreation (Ottawa West PC)</p> <p>Barlow, W. W. (Cambridge PC)</p> <p><b>Bennett, Hon. C. F.</b>, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Ottawa South PC)</p> <p><b>Bernier, Hon. L.</b>, Minister of Northern Affairs (Kenora PC)</p> <p>Birch, M. (Scarborough East PC)</p> <p>Boudria, D. (Prescott-Russell L)</p> <p>Bradley, J. J. (St. Catharines L)</p> <p><b>Brandt, Hon. A. S.</b>, Minister of the Environment (Sarnia PC)</p> <p>Breaugh, M. J. (Oshawa NDP)</p> <p>Breithaupt, J. R. (Kitchener L)</p> <p>Bryden, M. H. (Beaches-Woodbine NDP)</p> <p>Cassidy, M. (Ottawa Centre NDP)</p> <p>Charlton, B. A. (Hamilton Mountain NDP)</p> <p>Conway, S. G. (Renfrew North L)</p> <p>Cooke, D. S. (Windsor-Riverside NDP)</p> <p>Copps, S. M. (Hamilton Centre L)</p> <p>Cousens, D., Deputy Chairman of the Committees of the Whole House (York Centre PC)</p> <p>Cunningham, E. G. (Wentworth North L)</p> <p>Cureatz, S. L. (Durham East PC)</p> <p><b>Davis, Hon. W. G.</b>, Premier (Brampton PC)</p> <p><b>Dean, Hon. G. H.</b>, Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Wentworth PC)</p> <p>Di Santo, O. (Downsview NDP)</p> <p><b>Drea, Hon. F.</b>, Minister of Community and Social Services (Scarborough Centre PC)</p> <p>Eakins, J. F. (Victoria-Haliburton L)</p> <p><b>Eaton, Hon. R. G.</b>, Minister without Portfolio (Middlesex PC)</p> <p>Edighoffer, H. A. (Perth L)</p> <p><b>Elgie, Hon. R. G.</b>, Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (York East PC)</p> <p>Elston, M. J. (Huron-Bruce L)</p> <p>Epp, H. A. (Waterloo North L)</p> <p>Eves, E. L. (Parry Sound PC)</p> | <p><b>Fish, Hon. S. A.</b>, Minister of Citizenship and Culture (St. George PC)</p> <p>Foulds, J. F. (Port Arthur NDP)</p> <p>Gillies, P. A. (Brantford PC)</p> <p>Gordon, J. K. (Sudbury PC)</p> <p>Grande, T. (Oakwood NDP)</p> <p><b>Gregory, Hon. M. E. C.</b>, Minister of Revenue (Mississauga East PC)</p> <p><b>Grossman, Hon. L. S.</b>, Treasurer of Ontario and Minister of Economics (St. Andrew-St. Patrick PC)</p> <p>Haggerty, R. (Erie L)</p> <p>Harris, M. D. (Nipissing PC)</p> <p>Havrot, E. M. (Timiskaming PC)</p> <p>Henderson, L. C. (Lambton PC)</p> <p>Hennessy, M. (Fort William PC)</p> <p>Hodgson, W. (York North PC)</p> <p>Johnson, J. M. (Wellington-Dufferin-Peel PC)</p> <p>Johnston, R. F. (Scarborough West NDP)</p> <p>Jones, T., Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Committees of the Whole House (Mississauga North PC)</p> <p>Kells, M. C. (Humber PC)</p> <p>Kennedy, R. D. (Mississauga South PC)</p> <p>Kerr, G. A. (Burlington South PC)</p> <p>Kerrio, V. G. (Niagara Falls L)</p> <p>Kolyn, A. (Lakeshore PC)</p> <p>Lane, J. G. (Algoma-Manitoulin PC)</p> <p>Laughren, F. (Nickel Belt NDP)</p> <p><b>Leluk, Hon. N. G.</b>, Minister of Correctional Services (York West PC)</p> <p>Lupusella, A. (Dovercourt NDP)</p> <p>Mackenzie, R. W. (Hamilton East NDP)</p> <p>MacQuarrie, R. W. (Carleton East PC)</p> <p>Mancini, R. (Essex South L)</p> <p>Martel, E. W. (Sudbury East NDP)</p> <p>McCaffrey, R. B. (Armourdale PC)</p> <p><b>McCague, Hon. G. R.</b>, Chairman, Management Board of Cabinet (Dufferin-Simcoe PC)</p> <p>McClellan, R. A. (Bellwoods NDP)</p> <p>McEwen, J. E. (Frontenac-Addington L)</p> <p>McGuigan, J. F. (Kent-Elgin L)</p> <p>McKessock, R. (Grey L)</p> <p>McLean, A. K. (Simcoe East PC)</p> <p><b>McMurtry, Hon. R. R.</b>, Attorney General (Eglinton PC)</p> |
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McNeil, R. K. (Elgin PC)  
**Miller, Hon. F. S.**, Minister of Industry and Trade (Muskoka PC)  
 Miller, G. I. (Haldimand-Norfolk L)  
 Mitchell, R. C. (Carleton PC)  
 Newman, B. (Windsor-Walkerville L)  
 Nixon, R. F. (Brant-Oxford-Norfolk L)  
**Norton, Hon. K. C.**, Minister of Health (Kingston and the Islands PC)  
 O'Neil, H. P. (Quinte L)  
 Peterson, D. R. (London Centre L)  
 Philip, E. T. (Etobicoke NDP)  
 Piché, R. L. (Cochrane North PC)  
 Pollock, J. (Hastings-Peterborough PC)  
**Pope, Hon. A. W.**, Minister of Natural Resources (Cochrane South PC)  
 Rae, R. K. (York South)  
**Ramsay, Hon. R. H.**, Minister of Labour (Sault Ste. Marie PC)  
 Reed, J. A. (Halton-Burlington L)  
 Reid, T. P. (Rainy River L-Lab.)  
 Renwick, J. A. (Riverdale NDP)  
 Riddell, J. K. (Huron-Middlesex L)  
 Robinson, A. M. (Scarborough-Ellesmere PC)  
 Rotenberg, D. (Wilson Heights PC)  
 Roy, A. J. (Ottawa East L)  
 Runciman, R. W. (Leeds PC)  
 Ruprecht, T. (Parkdale L)  
 Ruston, R. F. (Essex North L)  
 Samis, G. R. (Cornwall NDP)  
 Sargent, E. C. (Grey-Bruce L)  
 Scrivener, M. (St. David PC)  
 Sheppard, H. N. (Northumberland PC)  
 Shymko, Y. R. (High Park-Swansea PC)  
**Snow, Hon. J. W.**, Minister of Transportation and Communications (Oakville PC)  
 Spensieri, M. A. (Yorkview L)  
**Stephenson, Hon. B. M.**, Minister of Education and Minister of Colleges and Universities (York Mills PC)  
**Sterling, Hon. N. W.**, Provincial Secretary for Resources Development (Carleton-Grenville PC)  
 Stevenson, K. R. (Durham-York PC)  
 Stokes, J. E. (Lake Nipigon NDP)  
 Swart, M. L. (Welland-Thorold NDP)  
 Sweeney, J. (Kitchener-Wilmot L)  
**Taylor, Hon. G. W.**, Solicitor General (Simcoe Centre PC)  
 Taylor, J. A. (Prince Edward-Lennox PC)  
**Timbrell, Hon. D. R.**, Minister of Agriculture and Food (Don Mills PC)  
 Treleaven, R. L. (Oxford PC)  
**Turner, Hon. J. M.**, Speaker (Peterborough PC)

Van Horne, R. G. (London North L)  
 Villeneuve, N. (Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry PC)  
**Walker, Hon. G. W.**, Provincial Secretary for Justice (London South PC)  
 Watson, A. N. (Chatham-Kent PC)  
**Welch, Hon. R. S.**, Deputy Premier and Minister responsible for Women's Issues (Brock PC)  
**Wells, Hon. T. L.**, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Scarborough North PC)  
 Wildman, B. (Algoma NDP)  
 Williams, J. R. (Oriole PC)  
 Wiseman, D. J. (Lanark PC)  
 Worton, H. (Wellington South L)  
 Wrye, W. M. (Windsor-Sandwich L)  
 Yakabuski, P. J. (Renfrew South PC)

#### MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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 Welch, Hon. R. S., Deputy Premier and Minister responsible for Women's Issues  
 Wells, Hon. T. L., Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs  
 Bernier, Hon. L., Minister of Northern Affairs  
 Snow, Hon. J. W., Minister of Transportation and Communications  
 Bennett, Hon. C. F., Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
 Miller, Hon. F. S., Minister of Industry and Trade  
 Timbrell, Hon. D. R., Minister of Agriculture and Food  
 Stephenson, Hon. B. M., Minister of Education and Minister of Colleges and Universities  
 McMurtry, Hon. R. R., Attorney General  
 Norton, Hon. K. C., Minister of Health  
 Drea, Hon. F., Minister of Community and Social Services  
 Grossman, Hon. L., Treasurer of Ontario and Minister of Economics  
 McCague, Hon. G., Chairman of Management Board of Cabinet and Chairman of Cabinet  
 Baetz, Hon. R. C., Minister of Tourism and Recreation  
 Elgie, Hon. R. G., Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations  
 Walker, Hon. G. W., Provincial Secretary for Justice  
 Gregory, Hon. M. E. C., Minister of Revenue  
 Pope, Hon. A. W., Minister of Natural Resources  
 Leluk, Hon. N. G., Minister of Correctional Services



Ashe, Hon. G. L., Minister of Government Services  
 Ramsay, Hon. R. H., Minister of Labour  
 Sterling, Hon. N. W., Provincial Secretary for Resources Development  
 Taylor, Hon. G. W., Solicitor General  
 Eaton, Hon. R. G., Minister without Portfolio  
 Andrewes, Hon. P. W., Minister of Energy  
 Brandt, Hon. A. S., Minister of the Environment  
 Dean, Hon. G. H., Provincial Secretary for Social Development  
 Fish, Hon. S. A., Minister of Citizenship and Culture

### PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANTS

Birch, M. (Scarborough East), assistant to the Premier  
 Cureatz, S. L. (Durham East), assistant to the Solicitor General  
 Eves, E. L. (Parry Sound), assistant to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Colleges and Universities  
 Gillies, P. A. (Brantford), assistant to the Minister of Labour  
 Gordon, J. K. (Sudbury), assistant to the Minister of Community and Social Services  
 Harris, M. D. (Nipissing), assistant to the Minister of the Environment  
 Hennessy, M. (Fort William), assistant to the Minister of Northern Affairs  
 Hodgson, W. (York North), assistant to the Minister of Government Services  
 Kells, M. C. (Humber), assistant to the Minister of Transportation and Communications  
 Kennedy, R. D. (Mississauga South), assistant to the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs  
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 McNeil, R. K. (Elgin), assistant to the Minister of Agriculture and Food  
 Mitchell, R. C. (Carleton), assistant to the Minister of Health  
 Piché, R. L. (Cochrane North), assistant to the Minister of Revenue  
 Robinson, A. M. (Scarborough-Ellesmere), assistant to the Minister of Citizenship and Culture  
 Rotenberg, D. (Wilson Heights), assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
 Shymko, Y. R. (High Park-Swansea), assistant to the Provincial Secretary for Social Development

Stevenson, K. R. (Durham-York), assistant to the Treasurer of Ontario and Minister of Economics  
 Taylor, J. A. (Prince Edward-Lennox), assistant to the Minister of Industry and Trade  
 Watson, A. N. (Chatham-Kent), assistant to the Minister of Energy  
 Williams, J. R. (Orillia), assistant to the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations  
 Yakabuski, P. J. (Renfrew South), assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Administration of justice: chairman, Mr. Kolyn; vice-chairman, Mr. MacQuarrie; members, Messrs. Breithaupt, Cureatz, Elston, Eves, Mitchell, Renwick, Spensieri, Stevenson, Swart and Williams; clerk, F. Carrozza.

General government: members, Messrs. Epp, Foulds, Gillies, Gordon, Haggerty, Harris, Hennessy, Hodgson, McKessock, McLean, Piché and Samis; clerk, G. White.

Resources development: chairman, Mr. Barlow; vice-chairman, Mr. Villeneuve; members, Messrs. Havrot, Lane, Laughren, McNeil, J. A. Reed, Riddell, Stokes, Sweeney, Villeneuve, Watson and Yakabuski; clerk, D. Arnott.

Social development: members, Mr. Allen, Ms. Copps, Messrs. Henderson, R. F. Johnston, Kells, Kerr, McGuigan, Pollock, Robinson, Shymko, Wiseman and Wrye; clerk, L. Mellor.

Members' services: chairman, Mr. J. M. Johnson; vice-chairman, Mr. Lane; members, Messrs. Charlton, Grande, Kennedy, G. I. Miller, Rotenberg, Runciman, Ruprecht, Shymko, Wiseman and Wrye; clerk, A. Richardson.

Procedural affairs: chairman, Mr. Treleaven; vice-chairman, Mr. Watson; members, Messrs. Breaugh, Cassidy, Cureatz, Edighoffer, Epp, Kells, Mancini, McNeil, Rotenberg and Villeneuve; clerk, S. Forsyth.

Public accounts: chairman, Mr. T. P. Reid; vice-chairman, Mr. Eves; members, Messrs. Bradley, Cunningham, Havrot, Kennedy, Kolyn, Philip, Sargent, Mrs. Scrivener, Messrs. Taylor and Wildman; clerk, F. Carrozza.

Regulations and other statutory instruments: chairman, Mr. Sheppard; vice-chairman, Mr. Gillies; members, Messrs. Cousens, Di Santo, Hennessy, Hodgson, Kerrio, Lupusella, McEwen, Piché, Robinson and Van Horne; clerk, A. Richardson.

### SELECT COMMITTEE

Ombudsman: chairman, Mr. Runciman; vice-chairman, Mr. Van Horne; members, Messrs.



Breithaupt, Di Santo, Eakins, Hennessy, Hodgson, MacQuarrie, Mitchell, Philip, Piché and Shymko; clerk, G. White.

\*The lists in this appendix, brought up to date as necessary, are published in Hansard on the first Friday of each month and in the first and last issues of each session.

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Barlow, W. W. (Cambridge PC)  
Bradley, J. J. (St. Catharines L)  
Brandt, Hon. A. S., Minister of the Environment (Sarnia PC)  
Breaugh, M. J. (Oshawa NDP)  
Bryden, M. H. (Beaches-Woodbine NDP)  
Cassidy, M. (Ottawa Centre NDP)  
Cooke, D. S. (Windsor-Riverside NDP)  
Copps, S. M. (Hamilton Centre L)  
Cousens, D., Deputy Chairman and Acting Speaker (York Centre PC)  
Davis, Hon. W. G., Premier (Brampton PC)  
Elgie, Hon. R. G., Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (York East PC)  
Elston, M. J. (Huron-Bruce L)  
Fish, Hon. S. A., Minister of Citizenship and Culture (St. George PC)  
Grossman, Hon. L. S., Treasurer and Minister of Economics (St. Andrew-St. Patrick PC)  
Johnston, R. F. (Scarborough West NDP)  
Jones, T., Deputy Speaker and Chairman (Mississauga North PC)  
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No. 16

# **Hansard**

# **Official Report of Debates**

## Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**  
Monday, April 9, 1984

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner  
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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Contents of the proceedings reported in this issue of Hansard appears at the back, together with an alphabetical list of the speakers taking part.

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Monday, April 9, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## PARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE

**Mr. Speaker:** On Friday last, as members may recall, I made a ruling that found the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid) and the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) to be equally responsible for an infraction of the rules of the House. The Minister of Labour has withdrawn his statement. I would ask the member for Rainy River to withdraw his statement, please.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, I hope you will allow me, since my statement is prepared, to rise on a point of privilege at the end of question period to clarify some of these matters; but in the meantime I will withdraw the comment.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you.

## STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTRY

### TEMPORARY ABSENCE PROGRAM

**Hon. Mr. Leluk:** Mr. Speaker, the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breaugh) posed a number of questions regarding the Ontario Board of Parole and my ministry's temporary absence program. I believe these questions stem from the review of the operations of the parole board by the standing committee on procedural affairs.

I want to say to the honourable members at the outset that the temporary absence program is not replacing or superseding the role of the Ontario Board of Parole. Parole and the temporary absence program are totally separate in their functioning, although their ends are somewhat complementary.

The honourable member asked whether we are releasing inmates outright within a day. This is not correct. However, in relation to the immediate temporary absence program, judges can recommend immediate temporary absence for inmates who are gainfully employed and who are serving sentences of 90 days or less. We make community checks, employment checks, etc., and in many instances the inmate is released within 24 to 48 hours to take part in the temporary absence program, but with stringent reporting restrictions, the same as those that apply to other temporary absences.

It was also asked if it is true there are no limits to the temporary absence program. There are many limits to the temporary absence program. For example, temporary absences may be granted for periods from one to five days; from five to 15 days; for terminal release up to a maximum of 15 days; and for placement for periods over 15 days for employment, academic or medical reasons which entail the daily release and return to an institution or community resource centre.

Another question asked was, is it true there are 15-day recurring temporary absences? I can assure the member that this is not the practice in the temporary absence program. Let me assure the honourable member that the mandate of the temporary absence program does not exceed that of the board of parole. In fact, persons serving their sentences in an institution or a community resource centre who are on temporary absence may apply for and be granted parole.

Finally, the honourable member suggested that inmates should have the opportunity for an independent hearing instead of relying on the decisions of unnamed civil servants using unspecified criteria. I cannot support the view that inmates are released on temporary absences on the basis of unspecified criteria. In fact, the temporary absence procedures are extremely well established, and the criteria that are used for the selection of inmates for temporary absence are definitive.

A committee of three institutional staff members make a recommendation to the superintendent after checks with the police, judiciary, employers and our own probation and parole staff. In addition, the previous criminal record of each applicant, his or her temporary absence plans, the individual's domestic situation, previous possible use of drugs and/or alcohol, the type of offence that was committed and current behaviour in the institution are reviewed carefully. Let me assure members that all these factors are taken into consideration in detail before a decision is made.

I draw to the attention of the honourable members that the process I have just described has operated with a success rate of approximately 98 per cent for almost 16 years.



May I clarify for honourable members the mandate of the Ontario Board of Parole and the temporary absence program regulations. The Ontario Board of Parole exercises parole jurisdiction for all prisoners sentenced to provincial institutions and for any federal offenders serving a sentence in provincial institutions as a result of a transfer.

Inmates can be considered for parole upon the completion of one third of their sentence. Those serving sentences of less than six months must apply in writing for consideration. Those serving six months or more are scheduled automatically for a hearing with the board unless they choose to waive their right to a hearing.

The temporary absence program was introduced in 1969, allowing an inmate at any point in his or her sentence to request a pass to be absent from a correctional institution for medical, educational, humanitarian or rehabilitative purposes. As I noted earlier, the inmate's application is reviewed in detail, and the resulting overall success of this program is extremely positive.

This ministry's published goals and principles state that, wherever practical, correctional programs should be community-based. In this context those inmates who display motivation towards positive personal and social adjustment are most likely to be released into the community. Let me assure honourable members that inmates are released in the community not to relieve overcrowding but to meet the ministry's expressed mandate.

Public security is at all times the prime concern of my ministry. The emphasis of our programs is on applying the appropriate degree of control necessary to protect society and to provide institutional programs for those persons either clearly dangerous to the public or not sufficiently motivated for immediate return to the community. Our aim is to control the release of inmates either through careful selection for programs such as temporary absence or parole, or through rehabilitative institutional programming and subsequent release at the expiry of their sentences.

I can assure honourable members that the Ministry of Correctional Services is fully cognizant at all times both of the rehabilitation of the offender and of public safety.

**Mr. Breagh:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: I take it the chair would rule that the minister has just made a statement as opposed to answering a question previously asked.

**Mr. Speaker:** He did indeed, and he did it with my concurrence. Inasmuch as it was much too long to be taking up the time of question period, it was suggested he do it as a ministerial statement, and the rules provide for that, as you are probably aware.

[Later]

**Mr. Breagh:** On a point of order: Mr. Speaker, since you directed the Minister of Correctional Services (Mr. Leluk) to give his reply in statement form, I am sure you will be gracious enough to allow me one small supplementary question now.

2:10 p.m.

### DEVELOPMENTAL CENTRES

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, during the implementation of the Education Amendment Act, 1980, commonly referred to as Bill 82, concerns have been raised by school boards and parents regarding the special needs of severely retarded school-aged children in developmental day care centres under the Day Nurseries Act. The concerns expressed have centred primarily on the provision of services which extend beyond what might reasonably be expected as educational services.

I want to assure the members of the Legislature that over the last several months these issues have been jointly addressed by the staff of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

As a result, I am pleased to inform the members today of the following additional measures the government will be initiating to assist school boards to comply with the requirements of the Education Amendment Act, 1980, to ensure that all school-aged children have access to education, regardless of their exceptionalities.

With respect to severely retarded children now enrolled in developmental day care centres registered under the Day Nurseries Act, school boards are expected to continue planning for the enrolment and placement of these children as required under section 5 of regulation 274 and to present a plan for the approval of the Minister of Education.

However, rather than bringing all these children out of the developmental day care centres, a school board may, because of special circumstances, request the approval of the Minister of Education to appoint teachers, effective September 1, 1985, to provide an educational program within the centre.



**Mr. Nixon:** That is the Bradley program.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** No, it is not. That is not what he suggested.

In such cases, with the approval of the Minister of Community and Social Services, that ministry will continue to provide services to school-aged children remaining in the centres until, as the number of children decreases, the provision of service is no longer required.

Where a board receives the approval of the Minister of Education to provide the educational program in this way, the board will be permitted to add the number of pupils so enrolled to the board's total enrolment of trainable retarded pupils and, thus, will qualify for the applicable grants for the education of trainable retarded pupils.

The board will be expected to affiliate such classes in such centres with an appropriate school within its system, under the supervision of the principal of that school and with access to the board's full resources and services.

Any new admissions of school-aged children accepted into such a centre after August 31, 1985, will be made by the parents through the school boards in full consultation with the administrator of the centre and the area office of the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Regional offices—or area offices, as applicable—of both ministries will jointly review the arrangements annually in order to facilitate the provision by the school system of the appropriate educational programs.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services will provide the Ministry of Education with an annual profile on preschool children in each developmental day care centre. Thus, the school board will be responsible for the education component in the centre's program, while the Ministry of Community and Social Services will continue to provide all other services.

I should like to assure members that nothing in this special arrangement should detract a school board from pursuing its plan of providing education for some or all of these children within the school system rather than in the centre.

School boards and local associations will be informed as soon as possible of the full details of these arrangements. In the meantime, my colleague and I are confident these steps will ensure that the mandate of the special education legislation will be met by September 1985 and, at the same time, ensure that the special needs of this group of children will be addressed in the best possible way.

## ADHERENCE TO INFLATION RESTRAINT

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could rise on a point of privilege at this time since statements seem to be completed.

On Thursday, April 5, 1984, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) sought to throw up a smokescreen about Dr. Wolfson's billings in order to cover up ongoing deficiencies in the way his department manages public funds.

The attached document, which I am tabling with the Clerk, outlines in some detail internal contradictions in Dr. Wolfson's statements, the ministry correspondence and the minister's efforts at self-justification in the Legislature. Those facts speak for themselves.

Today I would like to focus on some key findings of the internal and management audit branch about the ministry and its agencies' management practices, which the minister neglected to highlight in his statement.

The ministry did not seek "date-specific" billings from Dr. Wolfson until after February 1982, seven months after he started work. Dr. Wolfson claims he "acted in good faith" in the way he billed. "Until early in 1982, it was never indicated to me that I should submit my accounts in a different manner," he said.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I have no objection to the honourable member rising on a point of privilege, provided it is about privilege, and tabling the documents he said he was going to table. However, there is no order and no provision in the standing orders to allow a member to stand up and make a statement.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** With respect, Mr. Speaker, I believe it is a matter of privilege. The minister read a 12-page statement in this Legislature last week in which he called into doubt the way I personally as a member operate in this Legislature and in these environs, and he questioned my integrity.

You required him to withdraw some of the statements he made in that statement. If that is not a matter of privilege, I think it is time you told us what is, when a minister can take the time of this House to attack another member, who has no recourse except to sit here and take it, according to your ruling. I am not prepared to do that.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have dealt with matters of order and privilege on many occasions in this House. I suggest the member refer to the copies of Hansard that deal with them. I dealt with this matter on Friday last, as I said earlier. Unfortunately, the member was not in his seat, but at that time the minister did withdraw his remarks.



Earlier I had asked the member to withdraw his remarks, which he did.

With all respect, I do not think what you are doing falls within the criteria or ambit of my understanding of what constitutes privilege. As I said earlier, I allowed you to rise on a point of privilege and to make your opening statement wherein you said you were going to table certain documents. That is fine, but there is no provision allowing an individual member to rise and make a statement. As you will recall, the minister made his statement under the proper standing order of ministerial statements.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, I again ask the question: Are you saying, in effect, a minister of the crown can come into this Legislature and under ministerial statements make what I consider to be an unwarranted personal attack on my integrity as a member of this House and that I have no opportunity to respond? You allowed him to go on for 12 pages and for some 20 minutes. It was very clear the minister was attacking me. You are now telling me you will allow that, but you will not allow me an opportunity to defend myself.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Speaker, on the point of privilege, you indicated in your ruling just a moment ago that on Friday you had requested the two members to withdraw their statements. I do not believe that was entirely correct because I thought you quite properly indicated that the implication of presenting an untruth to the House had to be withdrawn. I understand now that both members have done so. But that does not mean the Minister of Labour has withdrawn his lengthy statement in which, point by point, he was personally critical of the actions taken by my colleague the member who is before you now.

My own feeling is there is no opportunity for the member to defend himself in this House. We are at the end of the throne speech debate. We do not know what items will come after that; supposedly, we will be dealing with bills. I expect he will have no recourse but to try to persuade the members of the press gallery they should pay attention to his comments outside the House. They may well do that. But surely on a matter where the minister gets up and spends considerable time in detailed criticism, which is a mild word indeed, of my colleague, and then there is no opportunity for him respond, there seems to me to be something of an injustice.

2:20 p.m.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Speaker, I want to support my friend the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon). If a member is accused of

something in here, we must have an opportunity for that member to redress it or to defend his integrity.

The rules now allow for ministerial statements to be made, to which there is no response, particularly if the member has made his comments in the debate on the speech from the throne or something like that outside question period; and we cannot very well stake out our position via the avenue of questions.

I would ask that the Speaker send this matter to the standing committee on procedural affairs, but at the same time I would move that the member be now heard.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think that motion is out of order and I cannot accept it, with all respect.

**Mr. Martel:** Might I comment on that, Mr. Speaker? Standing order 19(b) says, "When two or more members rise to speak, the Speaker shall call upon the member who, in his opinion, rose first in his place; no debate is permitted on the Speaker's decision, but a motion may be made that any member who has risen 'be now heard,' or 'do now speak.'"

I suggest to you that this is what the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid) was attempting to do, and I again ask you to consider the motion I presented to you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Of course, you did not read the whole item. Rule 19(a) and the rest of it has regard to rules of debate; it says so very clearly, and we are not at this time engaged in debate.

**Mr. Nixon:** Just let him make his point of order by agreement if by nothing else.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, if you are not prepared to let the member speak, a decision with which I respectfully disagree, surely the member is entitled to know from you when he will be allowed to make a statement clearing his name if he feels he has been wrongfully accused of something by the minister. Surely that is a point of privilege.

Among ourselves here as members of the House, if another member has made an allegation that the member feels is untrue or is not founded in fact, or if he is making allegations with respect to motives that are quite unfair, surely at some point in the proceedings of this House the member should be permitted, on the unanimous consent of the House or however you want to do it, to stand up and make a reply that this member feels is part and parcel of the defence of his or her integrity.

I hope you will give the member for Rainy River some indication. If he is not to be heard now, when is he to be heard?



**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, may I make a comment on the various pieces of advice that are flowing to you at the present time?

First of all, it should be very clearly understood that the statement made by the minister was a proper ministerial statement and was not an attack on the member. As he said, it was a defence of a very loyal and respected public servant of this province, a public servant who had been criticized and who has no recourse to speak in any other manner but through the minister through whom he is responsible. That point should be made very clear.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** That is not the point.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** It is the point, with great respect. We would be remiss in our duty, as the member opposite would be remiss in his duty if he were sitting on this side, if we did not speak on behalf of that public servant if we felt the facts were not correct. That is precisely what the minister did.

Mr. Speaker, we sympathize with you that the rules really do not cover this kind of occurrence. The ministerial statement was very much needed and very much in order, but we would have no objection to giving concurrence to let the member make his point at this time if you so rule.

**Mr. Speaker:** Quite obviously, as members have recognized, there is no provision in the standing orders for the Speaker to allow this type of rebuttal.

**Mr. Foulds:** Unless you saw it as a point of privilege, which it legitimately is.

**Mr. Speaker:** With all respect, I would rather see it as a point of order than as a point of privilege.

**Mr. Nixon:** Just ignore the interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall indeed. That sounds like a familiar instruction.

However, as the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) has suggested, and as I was on the point of suggesting, perhaps it is a matter for the standing committee on procedural affairs to address, to allow a member who feels he or she has been offended to have some course of action to defend himself or herself.

Obviously we have the concurrence of the House, and I am prepared to hear the member for Rainy River.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, would you like me to start at the top?

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Thank you.

On Thursday, April 5, 1984, the Minister of Labour sought to throw up a smokescreen about Dr. Wolfson's billings to cover up ongoing deficiencies in the way his ministry manages public funds.

The attached document, which I am tabling with the Clerk, outlines in some detail internal contradictions between Dr. Wolfson's statements, the ministry correspondence and the minister's efforts at self-justification in the Legislature. Those facts speak for themselves.

Today I would like to focus on some key findings of the internal and management audit branch about the ministry and its agencies' management practices, which the minister neglected to highlight in his statement.

1. The ministry did not seek "date-specific" billings from Dr. Wolfson until after February 1982, seven months after he started work. Dr. Wolfson claims he "acted in good faith" in the way he billed. He says, "Until early in 1982 it was never indicated to me that I should submit my accounts in a different manner." This is a direct reflection on the lack of monitoring in the ministry to maintain conformity with government practice.

2. "In some instances, the informality of records maintained by the Advisory Council on Occupational Health and Occupational Safety administrative personnel...makes it somewhat difficult to establish a clear audit trail." That is also from an internal audit memo.

3. "Per diem claims for ACOHOS are not always verified with appointees and in no case do the appointees verify, by signature, the accuracy of statements submitted for payment."

4. "Dr. Wolfson's records...because of their incompleteness, could only be partially relied upon in reviewing these payments."

These are statements taken from ministry documents, not from any correspondence or anything I dreamt up.

To improve the accounting services' ability to monitor payments for all appointees, the director of the internal audit branch made a number of recommendations about signed claims. When one gets past the bureaucratic accounting language, the message is altogether clear and disturbing. The Ministry of Labour was prepared to pay bills without proper monitoring or verification. In fact, Dr. Wolfson's initial repayment only occurred after we had raised the issue with the ministry.

Thus, it appears clear that through ministry negligence and sloppy administration, the taxpayers' moneys have not been supervised care-



fully. As a result, if Dr. Wolfson has suffered any embarrassment, it is a result of his ministry's sloppiness.

The minister also refers to there being "another" order in council. This information contradicts the information received from his ministry. Copies of the relevant letters from his ministry are also being tabled with the Clerk. I ask the minister to table this "other" order in council, namely, OIC 794/82, which he referred to in his statement last Thursday.

The question of Dr. Wolfson's integrity is not the issue in this case. Again, I wish to emphasize that what I was pointing out was that when it came to the workers of this province, the government used an iron heel, but it seems to be flexible, and even sloppy, when it comes to enforcing the rules for its own.

If one looks at Hansard, the person who does the headlining of the topics in Hansard used the headline "Adherence to Inflation Restraint." That certainly was the point I was making.

If any apologies are owed, they should be from the minister; first, to Dr. Wolfson for failing to ensure his billings met accounting procedures; and second, to me for providing inaccurate information to me, if such it is, and for misrepresenting my specific questions to the House.

In closing, I want to make it clear to the ministers, the Premier (Mr. Davis) and this House that I will not be intimidated from discharging my responsibility as a member of the official opposition in this Legislature.

2:30 p.m.

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding, and with the concurrence of the House, I ask all honourable members to—

Interjection.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** That is dirty pool.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The member for Rainy River will resume his seat.

#### VISITORS

**Mr. Speaker:** Now we have a rather pleasant little interlude to greet some visitors in the Speaker's gallery. I ask all members to join with me in recognizing and welcoming the three members of the Special Committee to Study the Relationship of Government and the Arts in Ontario established by the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture: Mr. Robert W. Macaulay, who is the chairman, a former member and a former cabinet minister; Mr. Peter J. Day, who is a vice-chairman, and Ms. Geraldine Sherman, a vice-chairman.

#### ORAL QUESTIONS

##### FUNDING OF THE ARTS

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I join you in welcoming the distinguished members of the committee. I am surprised they are not sitting on this side of the House after their condemnation of the sorry state of arts funding in this province.

In that regard, I have a question for the appropriate minister, the Minister of Citizenship and Culture. She has no doubt had an opportunity to review the report by these three distinguished people in the gallery leering down at her. The bottom line of that report is relatively simple. What they are saying is that the minister is starving the arts and fattening her own bureaucracy.

How can the minister justify the sorry state of funding of the arts in this province when she is at the same time inflating her own information budget? It doubled last year to some \$2.4 million, which is providing absolutely no productivity for artists and the arts in this province. It is accomplishing nothing.

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson) doubtless knows I was very pleased to announce last week grants in excess of \$73 million to the Ontario Arts Council and several other of the arts and cultural institutions of my ministry, representing considerable increases to those agencies.

I was delighted to receive correspondence on April 6 from the chairman of the Ontario Arts Council regarding the proposed funding for this year, which indicated, "I sense that we have embarked upon a new era of commitment and confidence, and can assure you of the OAC's continuing co-operation with the ministry in fulfilling our shared mandate."

That is the clear commitment of this government, as documented time and again in a report that took 10 fine months of study and is now before us all.

**Mr. Peterson:** I have now solved my problem. I now know what the information department does in Citizenship and Culture. They write answers to questions whether they are asked or not. They are spending \$1.2 million writing answers to questions that have not been asked.

I will ask my question again to see whether she can wing this one on her own. How can she justify the fattening or inflation of her own bureaucracy, with her own main office increase going from \$1.2 million to \$2.4 million in information services, when at the same time the arts are considered to be in such a sorry state for



funding? The committee itself said the ministry can get the best value for its investment in the arts by exhibiting restraint in its own operation. How does she justify that inflation to this House?

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** I thought we were looking at a study that has taken, as I noted earlier, some 10 long months of very careful receiving of briefs and careful consideration of views presented by the public all across this province. It was not an analysis that was done in haste, nor was it an analysis that was pre-prepared for the reading of those who might come forward.

If the honourable member were to take the time to read the report, I would be very surprised if he reached the incredible conclusion that for 20 years the arts in this province have not been funded and funded well. The point that is made and underlined here is the strength of the arts in this province, of the expansion of facilities, of the support to the Ontario Arts Council. I was merely citing for the member the commitment this government has to the arts in this province and its willingness to expend in excess of \$73 million to that end in this fiscal year.

**Mr. Allen:** Mr. Speaker, the minister may gesticulate grandly and sweepingly about the grand performance of this government with respect to the arts—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Allen:** I would like to ask the minister whether she herself has read all the graphs in this, which show declining real dollar support of the arts over the last several years to the point where this committee has had to report that this province spends only nine per cent of the actual expenditures on the arts in this province, the others coming from other levels of government; that it is the lowest of any province in Canada, and that it is in fact 50 per cent of the average level of the other nine provinces in this country.

In the light of the survey sponsored by the committee, which discovered that 53 per cent of this province is prepared to spend up to \$25 per person per annum more on the arts in taxation, will the minister not now reverse the devastating policy of the last several years and engage in an aggressive policy of arts support in this province, which the arts in this province deserve?

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member who waved a copy of the report shows clearly in his question that this is a very extensive and very complex report.

I look forward, as I am sure the member does, to a very careful review of all the recommendations that are housed therein. I would note,

however, that the central charge to the committee was to review the relationship between government and the arts during the past 20 years and to chart a course for the future.

The future course that has been charted in this report, as I believe the members will know readily, is not a course that will be settled simply by putting dollars to a problem. I am sure the member is aware that there are suggestions for tax change, for the consolidation of facilities and for internal reviews of the priorities of the Ontario Arts Council, among others, all of which, taken together and analysed, will assist us in guiding the future. I hope to be able to respond to the full report in some considerable detail in the very near future.

I want to come back to the point of saying that fundamental to the finding is the fact that there has been extraordinarily positive growth in the arts in this province in the last 20 years, and the challenge before us is to continue to underline this and to maintain it. I repeat again that just at the close of last week we have shown the beginning of this continued commitment in announcements made of the support that will be provided to the arts in this coming year as a minimum.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. O'Neil:** Mr. Speaker, I know one thing: The present minister will never receive any awards in the Academy Awards for her performance today in trying to defend her position on this question.

As the member from the New Democratic Party mentioned, this province spends the lowest share of any province in this country on the arts, and our figures show that the arts have decreased their spending by more than 20 per cent since the 1978-79 levels. To quote a comment made in this report:

"We believe that unless there are increases in the provincial subsidy to the arts, in part to correct the erosion caused by inflation, we could lose some of our most exciting talent and we will have squandered much of our sizeable investment in the arts."

What does the minister propose to do to improve this position that has been illustrated by this commission?

2:40 p.m.

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Mr. Speaker, I repeat, the report dealt with a number of complementary recommendations that, as I understand them, cannot be dealt with in isolation. To do justice to



three very dedicated people who did not take their chore lightly, either in examining the relationship of government and the arts or in charting recommendations for the future course, it would be inappropriate in the extreme to simply move upon a particular finding without an analysis of how that fits with others.

In so far as the basic thrust is concerned, it is clear there has been strong support for the arts and expensive, extensive growth. It is my wish to examine the findings in detail and to respond in accordance with those.

I know the honourable member would also welcome an opportunity to consider, among other things, the recommendations there which put before us a considerable dilemma. Does one concentrate on excellence or does one distribute resources broadly in the community? The very question the member has put was in the discussions on previous estimates. Those are the kinds of things that cannot be taken in isolation because they are integrated recommendations.

#### ALLOCATION OF HOUSING UNITS

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing concerning the nonprofit housing allocations, which have no rhyme or reason. He will be aware that the Metropolitan Toronto area has demonstrated the greatest need for nonprofit housing, given a vacancy rate of less than one per cent and the fact that 5,000 families are on the waiting list for municipal nonprofit housing. That list is growing by some 70 families per week.

Given the fact that Metro Toronto's waiting list for seniors is close to 3,000, why is it that Metro got no units on the basis of the last allocation? What kind of priorities does the minister have when he ignores the area of greatest need in Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, at the time I made the announcement on the allocation of municipal nonprofit units, which was in the latter part of February, it was in direct relationship to the fact that in its initial allocation for nonprofit units for municipalities or a province, the federal government through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. had given 1,400 units to Ontario.

The 1,400 units, down from 2,200 last year and from 2,800 the year before, left us with a very limited opportunity to allocate to communities. I said very clearly in my announcement we were giving them to the city of Ottawa and to various other communities across Ontario where

there had been commitments, both federally and provincially, to provide for municipal nonprofit housing.

I went on to say I was looking at the second allocation that would come from the federal government. Clearly, they said that was the initial allocation and they wanted us to indicate how we could use additional units. We did just as the federal minister asked. We indicated that with the first allocation of 1,400 units and spelled it out community by community.

We then went to whether we were going to be on rent geared to income or rent supplement on those 1,400 units. We clearly spelled that out to them. That was to respond to the fact that the federal government said the province was not paying a sufficient portion of cost relating to providing rent-geared-to-income housing. We thought the rent supplement program responded positively to the federal minister's request.

We wrote to the federal minister, saying the additional federal allocation would be principally for Toronto and Metropolitan Toronto. We asked for 1,400 additional units. We said 1,100 of those would go to Toronto and Metropolitan Toronto. We clearly understood there would be a second allocation and I trust the Leader of the Opposition is aware there was an announcement this morning.

**Mr. Peterson:** I ask the minister again, because as he knows the second allocation depends upon the first allocation and its perceived success, why Metro has been ignored, when by any standard he wants to mention it represents at least 36 per cent of the need in Ontario. The minister is not responding to those needs.

He talks about Ottawa. Ottawa got 25 units even though there is a need for some 1,600 at present. There is no rhyme or reason to his allocations. How does he expect the federal government to respond to a program that is so cockeyed in most people's judgement?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, it might be cockeyed in the Liberal leader's opinion—he has exclusive rights to that particular field—but let me suggest, clearly and honestly, he extrapolates figures to his own benefit. To correct the record and make it very clear and easily understood, Ottawa was given 225 units, 25 of which were for municipal nonprofit organizations to construct and 200 of which were in the rent supplement program. One hundred per cent of the 200 units will be used for people who require them now and these units are being provided through the private sector.



If we look back a year, one of the criticisms of this minister and ministry was that we did not take up the rent supplement units in Ottawa. The opposition cannot have it both ways. We are working on one allocation from the federal government, which can be used either for construction or for rent supplement programs.

Last year we used it in the construction field in Ottawa. This year we put the principal sum into the rent supplement program, which brings the units on stream relatively quickly. One hundred per cent of the allocation is for rent-geared-to-income housing, not 25 or 35 per cent as it would be if units were constructed.

I realize the pressure in the city of Toronto. I felt that by showing the situation in Metropolitan Toronto to the federal government it would be easier for them to understand the pressures and the needs in the second allocation. The strategy was very clear. We could spell it out to the federal government. It is much more visible than in some of the other communities and we felt we had gone through it.

This morning, in this community, Mr. LeBlanc announced an allocation factor of 500 units for Metropolitan Toronto and said he was doing that on his assessment of need. They had gone through an analysis and their people, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp., felt 500 would meet the requirement. That is the implication in his letter and his press release this morning. The other 80 units they gave to the province went to the city of Ottawa.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Speaker, will the minister undertake to approve, as he is required to, the allocation of 80 units for the Gloucester-Nepean project in the central part of Ottawa which was announced by the federal authorities today?

Can the minister explain why he is apparently trying to kill municipal nonprofit housing in Ottawa by allocating only 25 units the last time around and by asking for almost none in the most recent allocation? Why has the minister not been prepared to ensure that publicly provided nonprofit housing is there in addition to private enterprise housing?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, first, the allocation of 80 units was made directly by the federal minister to a municipal nonprofit corporation in the city of Ottawa for a project in which there is, I understand, some association between CMHC and the municipal nonprofit in the construction of that project, on land ownership and few of the other things.

I take it Mr. LeBlanc felt it was a project he wanted to move ahead at this time. I doubt very

much whether there will be a further allocation, but I am going to see any further allocation from CMHC for Ottawa, Metropolitan Toronto, Toronto itself or other jurisdictions in this province. There was, as the member likely knows, a fairly substantial allocation from the federal minister this morning to both the private nonprofit and the co-operatives in various communities across the province, something like 1,300 or 1,400 in the Toronto and Metro Toronto area. A fairly substantial number of units was also allocated under those two programs in Ottawa.

Let me come to the second part of the question, which relates to whether we are trying to kill the municipal nonprofit. That is not our intention at all. I repeat, last year when we allocated the construction program to the Ottawa nonprofit housing corporation, it accepted it. The criticism from local politicians and others was that under the Ontario rental construction loan program we had not taken up the units we could get from the private sector under what we call a rent supplement program. We were criticized because we had not taken them up and we should have.

**2:50 p.m.**

I emphasize that an allocation from CMHC can be used for one of two purposes. I have explained this in my estimates report and I will do it again today. It can be used in one of two ways: either for a rent supplement program, renting from the private sector or from other organizations, or in the construction of municipal nonprofit units. Last year, as I said already, we used it for construction in Ottawa. This year, because of some of the criticism that came our way a year ago, we decided to take up the units that were available from the private sector on a virtually immediate basis to respond to those people who were on our waiting list. We can do that now without waiting 12 or 18 months for construction.

The member cannot have it both ways. Either we are going to use the allocation—

**Mr. O'Neil:** Subsidizing \$900-a-month rents in some cases.

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** The member's friends in Ottawa designed that program, not me. Is the member saying we should not take up those units?

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Peterson:** We do not want it both ways. We just want some action. The response to real needs has been so dismal.



**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** What is the minister going to do for Barrie with a zero per cent vacancy rate, or Kingston with a 0.01 per cent vacancy rate, or Sudbury and Guelph with 0.04 per cent vacancy rates? The minister knows there is a crisis in almost every metropolitan area in this province at present. Surely it cries out for greater action. Would the minister not agree? What is he going to do to make sure we move forward to meet this need?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** It is always interesting to hear people talk about the dismal program in Ontario responding to the needs of the public, those in the lower-income groups. Dismal? In the 20-year period of the Ontario Housing Corp. we now have in place in this province more than 120,000 units for the less fortunate, both families and seniors, costing the taxpayers of Ontario and Canada over \$1 million per day. One out of every 10 rental units in this province is either under lease to the government or we own it as taxpayers. In metropolitan areas, it is one in seven.

We have moved aggressively and positively over that period of time to respond to the social requirements of this community of Ontario. Indeed, we have done it without the taxpayers throwing any kind of abuse at politicians on all sides of the House for having provided those units.

I have said to this House before and I repeat it today, if we are to deliver this program in the various jurisdictions of Ontario, we will not be doing it singularly as a provincial government. For a long time, we have agreed that the response to this program is provincial and federal. It is a co-operative program.

For some weeks now I have asked the federal minister, Mr. LeBlanc, for a meeting to go through it with him point by point to see if we can amend some of the federal and provincial programs to try to bring a greater number of units on stream. At this point, I have not had the opportunity to meet with him. Indeed, I could not meet with him this weekend although I did have the opportunity of meeting with the Prime Minister of Canada.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, did the minister get to shake hands or did he curtsy?

The minister said in February that according to his own calculations Metro Toronto alone needed 1,100 units. Mr. LeBlanc announced this morning there would be 500 units allocated to Metro. What does the minister intend to do about that 600-unit shortfall this year?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** Mr. Speaker, I think I concluded my last comments by saying I had asked to meet with the federal minister to review some of these programs. I want to draw the attention of the leader of the third party to the press release and to some of the other information Mr. LeBlanc gave out. He indicates clearly in his telegram to me this morning that the reason for the 500 units is because of his or CMHC's analysis of the need of the Metropolitan Toronto area.

He did not relate to the need we had expressed as a ministry, which was very clearly spelled out in letters to him on several occasions and in meetings between CMHC and people representing the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing over the last number of weeks.

He says in the telegram that according to his analysis, this is what he believes is required in the marketplace. I will say, in fairness to him, he does follow up by saying there will be a further 1,372 units going into private nonprofit and co-op housing. I guess with the combination of figures, he believes he has responded positively to the need.

**Mr. Rae:** The fact of the matter, as the minister knows, is there are 18,000 people still on the waiting list for Ontario Housing. There are thousands more who are on the waiting list for nonprofit and co-op housing. There is a tremendous need which the federal announcements have done nothing to meet.

The minister has been out of the housing business since 1978. How can he justify continuing to refuse to get into the business of providing housing when the need is so great? The minister should stop blaming Ottawa and start acting himself. Is the minister prepared to introduce a program himself to deal with the tremendous shortfall that clearly still exists?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** The leader of the third party knows very well we have not been out of the housing business. It is correct that we have been out of direct construction, as has the federal government and every province in this country.

Very clearly, we have all been involved in an agreement we signed back in 1978 with the federal government, which said we would participate in the delivery of a municipal nonprofit program and we would cover the cost or a portion of the cost.

I acknowledge the fact that the percentage we as a province are meeting in relation to the rent-gear-to-income housing in the nonprofit sector is relatively small, but I want to emphasize to this House that it was in keeping with the



agreement with the federal government. One of the points I have made to Mr. LeBlanc is that we are prepared to negotiate some changes in that agreement if he would like to sit down and go through it with us.

We appreciate that the waiting list is lengthy and we have tried to respond through the various programs. The Canada rental supply program will bring 1,200 additional units on stream in this province this year. One of the things Mr. LeBlanc had to say this morning, and I was delighted to see it, comes back to the co-ops and the private nonprofits.

On the allocation agreements for Metro Toronto, he said he wanted to see the major cities move the rent-geared-to-income portion of their units to 35 per cent plus five per cent, which is the very offer I made last August to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario in trying to resolve some of the problems of the municipal nonprofits in the various jurisdictions of Ontario. Few of them have taken up the opportunity, because they do not like to work from a common waiting list.

This morning Mr. LeBlanc said, and I thank him for it, that he wants the municipalities to move that 35 per cent and five per cent. Indeed, I hope he is also taking under consideration, maybe as a result of his being the federal minister responsible for the private nonprofit and co-op housing, that he might suggest that 35 per cent and five per cent of those allocated units also become available to the people on the waiting lists established by the local housing authorities. That will respond more positively to the waiting list than anything I can think of at the moment.

**Mr. Peterson:** Is it not true that in these negotiations the minister has bargained using Metro as a pawn, and indeed he has lost in the bargaining and now Metro has lost?

I understand the Premier (Mr. Davis) is meeting with the mayor tomorrow. What is he going to offer the city of Toronto in order to meet the great need?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** I do not believe we lost in the bargaining. If I listened to some of the remarks coming from that party going back to the end of February, they said there would be no second allocation. The province obviously had a second allocation of 580 units. The opposition did not believe we would ever get a thing. It figured we were at the end of the road at that time. I had greater belief in the member's Liberal friends in Ottawa than he had and we got 580 units.

Regarding the meeting tomorrow, the request for the meeting came from the mayor of Toronto.

We were not asked to present any program, but it was he who asked for the meeting with the Premier and myself. Indeed, we are going to meet with him and we will review whatever he has to say.

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, the minister just said he acknowledged that Ontario's contribution to nonprofit housing construction programs since 1978 is relatively small. Does he remember the figures he gave to the estimates committee last year? Since 1979 the federal contribution to nonprofit housing construction in Ontario has been \$93.5 million and Ontario's contribution has been \$1.8 million. That is to say, Ontario has contributed less than two cents on the dollar since 1978 towards the construction of nonprofit housing.

Does the minister intend to continue this idiotic policy which has resulted in critical housing shortages for low-income people all across the province? When will the minister commit this government to return to the co-operative spirit of housing in evidence before 1978, when Ontario contributed at least 50 cents on the dollar? Why does the government not set up its own loan guarantee programs and its own Ontario house construction programs and get back into the house-building programs it abandoned in 1978?

**Hon. Mr. Bennett:** First, Mr. Speaker, we did not abandon the program. It was the result of an agreement with the federal government which wanted to get out of the mortgaging business. That was very clearly spelled out and the member knows it. If not, he should go back and read some of the reports of that date.

**3 p.m.**

We have gone along with the agreement; we have participated fully in it and have tried to satisfy the market. Because we made a good agreement, all of a sudden it becomes a detriment to us. If we had not made a good agreement I would hear the third party criticizing us for spending more money than the federal government. I have offered to sit down with Mr. LeBlanc and review with him the costing of these programs and how we might expand them into new programs by the province participating more fully.

Let me suggest that we overlook one very simple fact. In all units that were built before 1978, we do pay 50 cents on the dollar for their operation. Indeed, not so many years ago 7.5 per cent of the cost was unloaded from the municipalities on to the provincial government. While we are not participating beyond five per cent in



municipal nonprofit housing at the moment, in the long term our commitment is there because, as the cost of operation goes up, the commitment by the province will become greater.

The members opposite do not like to hear that obviously, but that is the position in which we find ourselves—a long-term one. Once again I want to suggest to this House today that, as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, I am prepared to meet Mr. LeBlanc to see if we cannot expand the program to cover even a greater portion of the field that is our responsibility, with a greater participation by the province. I make that offer in this public forum this afternoon. Maybe now I will get a positive response from him and we can sit down and do something in a productive way.

### SURVEY ON ARTS FUNDING

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Citizenship and Culture if she can explain the following circumstance.

Chapter 3 of the report of the committee describes a survey which apparently was put out by the Ministry of Treasury and Economics and was shown to the committee. One slide of the survey showed that 61 per cent of the public allegedly recommended that if reductions were necessary in the Ontario budget, the arts should be the first to be cut.

Upon request to see this survey in order to see what the questions were, the government refused to allow the committee to have access to that information; it refused to allow the survey to go to the committee. As a result, the committee had to fund its own survey with respect to public attitudes towards arts funding.

Can the minister explain why there was a coverup of that survey and the questions asked in it? Can she explain how the results of the survey carried out by the Macaulay committee are so dramatically different from the results that have been circulated within government and which resulted in the initial statement made by her predecessor, the member for Armourdale (Mr. McCaffrey), when he referred to the need for a change in circumstance?

He said: "The availability for government funding for the arts has reached the point of maximum expansion in the past two years." That statement clearly reflects that attitude towards cutbacks which led to the establishment of the Macaulay committee.

Can the minister explain why there was a coverup with respect to the initial survey and why the results of the two surveys are so dramatically different?

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Mr. Speaker, first, let me say I am not aware of any coverup whatsoever. The first I had heard of an approach by the committee members in regard to some information on a budget consultation was when I was perusing parts of the report, having received it, as I did, late on Friday.

I have no further information about that piece of information, nor do I know upon what it was based. As I said, I think the report does accurately reflect that the information was part and parcel of what might be described as a prebudget consultation designed specifically for a large number of agencies and clients of the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

Some possible confusion might be left to someone listening to the juxtaposition of points in the question of the leader of the third party and in the suggestion that information on the one matter led to a survey on attitudes towards the arts being undertaken by the committee that might otherwise not have been undertaken.

That examination of attitudes towards the arts was viewed as an important component in the committee's research and in its efforts to try to reach out to a population beyond that which was coming in and presenting briefs. Allowance for that was provided in the budget of the committee, and I was pleased to ensure that was the case. The results of that survey, the questions asked and the findings, as the member knows, are now public.

If there are further questions with respect to some information, I would suggest the chairman of the committee or committee members might choose to ask them directly. I was not made aware of any problem, save and except a passing reference in the report, and that was not drawn to my attention until this weekend.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, the report states: "We realize...how damaging this particular statistic or survey could be to any argument put forward for equitable funding for the arts." It is intriguing that a damaging statistic and the background to that damaging information were not made available to the committee but were obviously circulated widely within the government and were part of an official presentation to the committee itself by the Ministry of Treasury and Economics.

The Treasurer's (Mr. Grossman) own advisers were clearly trying to tell the committee what kind of direction they thought the committee should go in; that is clearly the way the government is operating. Then, having told the committee which way it wanted them to go with respect to cutbacks, it refused even to give them



the question, which would have allowed the committee to come up with an independent answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Rae:** Luckily, the committee did take its own survey. Can the minister simply confirm the survey, which showed that Ontario spends 22 cents out of every \$100 on the arts and on arts funding and that when people heard this information their attitude with respect to arts funding changed dramatically? Can she explain why so few people know how much or how little money Ontario really spends on arts in the province?

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Let me repeat that the presentation in question was a prebudget briefing. It was not closed; it was not specially for the committee. It was for a broad range of agencies and clients of the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture and it included a wide range of questions and opportunities for response that were available.

I repeat that the purpose of undertaking the survey in question was entirely positive.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** It was for the committee charged with reviewing where we have been with the arts in the past 20 years and considering the future to examine this question in clear form. This survey has now been made entirely public; indeed, the contents of the survey as well as the questions asked are available to anyone who is interested in them, and they are published. I wish to make clear that the committee indicated, quite properly, that responses to questions clearly depend on the question that is asked.

With respect to the question about how many people in this province know precisely the amount of money that is spent on the arts, how can I deal with that?

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** When increases in the communications budget are put forward, we are pilloried. We are told we cannot provide information, that such activity is inappropriate. How, then, can I deal with a suggestion that inadequate information is before the public?

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. O'Neil:** Mr. Speaker, the minister cannot possibly believe what she has just said because it is a bunch of hogwash. If the minister has been told this by some of her ministry officials, it is

wrong. When Mr. Macaulay started out, he went out thinking the same thing she has just said. I think he has changed his mind. The arts are underfunded in Ontario, and we need to have some changes made.

What is the minister going to do to give increased funding to the arts throughout this province?

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Mr. Speaker, we already have. I announced it last week.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

3:10 p.m.

**Mr. Allen:** Mr. Speaker, I think if the minister would care to turn to 8.9 in the report, she would see there a table that lists the various proportions of support for the arts in Ontario from the various government bodies. We find the municipalities support it at a level of five per cent, the federal government supports it at a level of 24 per cent and the province supports it at a level of nine per cent.

I would submit it appears to us that the province, in giving the razzmatazz to the public about the level of provincial support that is offered, is hiding behind federal moneys which go to agencies which ought to be much more substantially supported in this province than they are.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now for the question, please.

**Mr. Allen:** May I ask the minister if she will abandon the grandiloquence and the gesticulation? Will she please stand up and simply tell us whether she is going to turn around the pattern of her ministry's behaviour and funding in the past? Will she indicate that the public support that exists for the arts will be followed by substantial action by this ministry?

**Hon. Ms. Fish:** Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated that I look forward to a very careful review of the report, with an opportunity to respond in detail over the next few weeks. The general position taken by that particular report and its conclusions are clear.

I say again there have been very strong commitment and support to culture and the arts in this province in the last 20 years and that commitment continues in the strongest possible way. I would be pleased to engage in a more detailed response when we have had an opportunity to consider all the interrelated recommendations over the next few weeks.

#### OSAP APPLICATIONS

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, last Thursday the member for Renfrew North (Mr.



Conway) asked whether the rumour he had heard was correct. I would like to know whether the rumour I have heard is correct, and that is that his erstwhile federal leader is going to appoint himself Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

None the less, the rumour the member had heard was that the Ontario student assistance program application forms were going to be delayed until mid-May. I must tell the member that, beginning the week of April 2, the initial run of 100,000 forms in both English and French were distributed to all colleges and universities. The remainder, 375,000 in English and 25,000 in French, completed on Friday, has been delivered today. We will begin distributing them to all the high schools tomorrow; so the distribution certainly will not be in May.

#### TESTING OF BACKUP BATTERIES

**Mr. Kerrio:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy regarding the class 1 emergency power supply at the Bruce nuclear generating station. The minister is certainly aware that each plant has a dual backup system. One is the large diesel generators and the other is huge banks of batteries that are expected in the first instance, as we draw on the batteries in the event of a breakdown of any kind, to be used to supply power for the relay switches, valve maintenance and reactor cooling system.

We have some concern about the testing of those battery banks. The Bruce B safety report describes their capabilities; so I will not go into that in detail. Having looked into the question, does the minister feel confident the class 1 emergency battery system has been properly maintained and would be in appropriate working order in the event of some kind of a breakdown?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, in response to the member for Niagara Falls, it is my understanding that two out of the three banks of the Bruce generating station common service batteries have been recently tested. The results of these tests indicate the actual performance exceeds the requirements of the batteries. The third bank was due to be tested on April 6, 1984.

**Mr. Kerrio:** We have received a reply to a request for an Ontario Hydro report on that system. One can point out in the report that inspection readings of battery voltages were not recorded as required, that full load tests were not conducted after five years of installation and that, if I could read one line from a report from Ontario Hydro, "Further load testing of the batteries

should be carried out as a priority item to determine the loss in capacity with time."

The minister can appreciate that unless Ontario Hydro determines the life expectancy of that very critical area of backup at one of the nuclear stations, we could be in serious trouble if we call on those batteries to provide interim capacity for doing the very important functions in conducting an orderly shutdown of the reactor.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Kerrio:** Will the minister look into this matter and satisfy himself that we can put in place a kind of auditing or monitoring of the testing and, in particular, that there will be a report to him and to this House that it has been done in a way that will give us satisfactory reliance on the system?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** As I reported earlier, two out of the three banks of the common service batteries have been tested. I would like to elaborate a little further on the quality of those tests.

For bank 12, for instance, performance requirements are 310 amps for a duration time under a test of 40 minutes. The test results indicated the current amps at 715 for a duration time of 63 minutes, almost double those requirements. For bank 13, the performance requirements are 90 amps over a duration time of 40 minutes. The actual test verified 175 amps over 58 minutes. Those test results were obtained on April 1, 2 and 3.

I also want to tell the honourable member that further testing is scheduled on bank 4 for May 1984, bank 3 for the fall of 1984, bank 2 for the fall of 1985 and bank 1 for the spring of 1985.

#### TECHNICAL EDUCATION

**Mr. Allen:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education. As the minister knows, grade 8 students in the education system have filled out their option sheets and those have now been analysed by a great many school boards across this province. I would like the minister to respond to the severe and alarming pattern of statistics that is building up, not least of all in my own city of Hamilton.

For example, the projected enrolments for grade 9 in the coming year from those grade 8 option sheets—they are virtually complete and there will be relatively little change in them—now indicate there will be a decline of 32 per cent in the technical courses chosen, a decline of eight per cent in the arts courses chosen, a decline of eight per cent in family studies and a decline of five per cent in music.



Now that this evidence is coming in, what is the minister's reaction to the criticisms that were made in the course of the development and the implementation of this program by concerned teachers and headmasters across this province who, to the very end in late October of last year, continued to be opposed to the implementation of Ontario Schools, Intermediate and Senior Divisions in 1984?

Are those statistics not alarming with respect to those options and the implications they bear for the programs of those students and the programs that will be affected in the coming year?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member is obviously privy to statistical information in Hamilton which, if it is factual, would be of some concern. I do not know that is so at this point, although I have heard from a number of representatives of the Ontario Teachers' Federation that it is their understanding there is a decline in applications for technical programs.

**3:20 p.m.**

The rationale for this seems somewhat obscure, since for the very first time in the history of the province the requirement is mandated for a credit in technical or business instruction for all students within the secondary school program.

Are the secondary school students declining to participate in that program in grade 9 because they think it would be better for them to do it in grade 10? I cannot tell the honourable member that.

It is also factual, and the member will agree, that for the very first time there is a mandated requirement for a credit in the arts. The student who was looking to develop an appropriate secondary program might well consider that those credits could be achieved in grade 9 within the secondary school program.

We will look at it very carefully when the factual information is provided to us by the boards in June. That is the time at which we do have recourse to that full set of facts, and we shall look to see what is happening.

I remind the member that the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation expended the sum of approximately \$100,000 in October to persuade the boards of this province not to participate in the implementation of OSIS in 1984. Because the boards have that option, they could simply request a delay for a year in that implementation. To my knowledge, not one board in this province has suggested that it would like to delay the implementation.

**Mr. Allen:** Of course, all boards want to get in on a new thing. The minister gave it such a fancy buildup that it looked as if it was a great thing to go with.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Allen:** The minister knows that selecting a technological option really did not make a great deal of difference. The way the compulsory credits were laid out, by the time you patterned out your four years of high school, there was almost no room to go anywhere with technology anyhow, except for that one part—

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Allen:** What is the point? The minister is so downplaying the technological program that she is only giving it one shot in the whole of four years, and now she is telling us it is surprising that these students have not opted for it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Allen:** What does the minister propose to do, in the light of the fact that it is not just in grade 9 that those statistics will hold? In grade 10 there will be a 22 per cent drop in technical program options, in grade 11 an 11.6 per cent drop and in grade 12 a 10.6 per cent drop.

What does the minister propose to do now? June will be too late. What does she propose to do right now to forestall a major disaster in technical education in Ontario schools next year?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I am not one of the prophets of gloom and doom, as the member for Hamilton West seems to be. I believe the member and others should understand there is no rule that says there are not 14 other credits available to all students in the secondary school program. There are additional credits that could be utilized by students in all of those four years—or five years, if they choose to participate for five years.

In addition, there are possibilities for the acquisition of music credits outside the school system, a factor that has been a part of our program for some time and was demanded by a significant number of the members of that party at the time the secondary education review project was being examined in this province.

I believe encouragement will be given to a significant number of students at least to try their hands at technical or business education at all levels within the school system. I believe that will provide opportunities for all those children.

In spite of the leader of the third party's misnomer of the system as elitist, what we are attempting to do is provide educational programs relevant for all the students in the system.



**Mr. Bradley:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Education made reference to the possibility of avoiding this by not implementing it in 1984. In the light of that, will the minister not admit she indicated in the estimates that it would be mighty difficult for boards of education to opt out of the implementation of OSIS in the fall of 1984? Will she not admit that directors of education across the province naturally do not want to be left behind the rest of the province in the implementation of OSIS?

In view of that, does the minister not understand it is a pattern across the province that technical choices are not being made in grades 9 and 10? The technical teachers are not easily able to adapt to teaching English, history and things of that nature; at least, that is what they inform us.

Will the minister investigate some of the proposals being brought forward by individual teachers to alleviate this problem by setting up potential patterns for students taking subjects? Besides those who are expressing alarm, there are some who are coming up with some positive positions that may be helpful in overcoming this problem.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I was heartened by a response to what I guess one could call a bearpit session I had with teachers in the honourable member's own riding about three weeks ago. The leader of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation in that area suggested what teachers really needed to do was to sit down and talk to their principals about scheduling within the school program that would make it more flexible and, therefore, more adaptable to the needs of students.

That is precisely what needs to happen, and I would be delighted if I could say this was happening across the province. I am sure it will. It is something that is being considered by thoughtful leaders, teachers and technical teachers right across the province.

There is technical capability within the school system, and we think all the students should avail themselves of it. We feel very strongly that students at all levels should have at least one opportunity to try a technical course to see whether their talents lie in that direction or to determine whether there is something else they might consider making their career pattern.

The member suggested I said it would be mighty difficult. I simply said the boards would have to give a compelling reason for doing it. With a compelling reason, I would most certainly consider it, and that has been my position all along. As for the opinions of directors of

education, I never presume to judge what their opinions may be.

#### FUNDING FOR POLICE TRAINING

**Mr. Van Horne:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Solicitor General, who has just got up to stretch his prerogative. I will let him get back to his seat. The question concerns his intransigence on the issue of payment by municipalities of police officer candidates during their training.

In an effort to save many millions of taxpayers' dollars and to get in line with the training practices in the case of other professionals, the mayors of many municipalities have requested the minister's permission to allow candidates at the Ontario Police College to pay for their own tuition. The minister has continually refused to grant this permission.

We know the mayors' proposal works perfectly well without the slightest compromise in police standards in many other jurisdictions in this country. Why will the minister not allow the municipalities this significant saving?

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** Mr. Speaker, on this matter the present policy and legislation is that individuals who are employed by the several municipalities and by the Ontario Provincial Police are sworn in as police officers. It is the mandate of this ministry, through the Ontario Police Commission and funded by the province, that when they are sworn in as police officers, they take a training course at the police college at Aylmer.

The police college at Aylmer is in two parts, part A and part B, consisting of nine weeks and six weeks respectively. When a police officer is in attendance at the police college, the province pays for the education by funding that college. The room and board, and in some instances transportation, of individual police officers is paid for by the province so they can maintain a standard. That has been the wish of this province over a period of time.

Each municipality hires its own police officers through the Ontario Police Commission. I cannot see how, although I have heard the suggestion many times, there would be a saving to an individual municipality if we were to charge tuition fees for its police officers to attend our police academy. I think the associations would assess the situation very quickly and bargain for that paid tuition.

**3:30 p.m.**

It is a decision by the commission of each local municipality to employ whom it wants to



employ. One requirement, which is not compulsory, is that the police officers attend police college and receive their instruction. Whatever arrangement the individual municipality wants to make with its police officers—whether it does not want to pay them during the time they are at the police college or whether it wants to make some other arrangement with them—is entirely the concern of the individual local municipality and its board of commissioners of police. It has nothing to do with the province. If we were to charge for tuition, there would be an increased payment by those individuals.

There are other features too. These individuals are usually mature individuals. They have—

**Mr. Speaker:** I think that is a complete answer. Thank you very much.

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** An exceedingly complete answer, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Van Horne:** Such a complete answer could beg about a dozen supplementaries. Let me submit to the minister that this year the Sarnia police commission hired four new constables who were trained at their own expense in the Maritimes. The province—or the Solicitor General, if you will—17 months ago refused admission to London's probationary recruits. The mayor of London has again written to the minister recently on this issue, looking for some positive direction. My understanding is that the minister has not responded directly to him. I also understand that another member of the London police commission, in the person of Robert Robarts, the brother of the late Premier of this province, has said, "It looks like we are going to have to force this issue."

Will the minister please reply directly to the mayor of London, who is seeking some very straightforward answers on this issue from him, not from a subaltern?

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** I have on more than one occasion, directly and indirectly, answered the mayor of London and police commissioner Mr. Robert Robarts. The reply to that is the same as I have given in this House, that they may do as they wish as long as they are sending to us police constables who are sworn in on the force of London or, indeed, of Sarnia.

I would like to add that Sarnia did go out of the province and obtain as employees people who had graduated from the police academy. When the member is carrying the message here to the mayor of London, if he studies the police college in the Maritimes, he will discover that in its arrangements with the federal government it is

totally subsidized by the federal government for non-employed individuals who, between the province and the federal government, do not even pay for tuition at that college which Sarnia has so proudly said is superior to ours.

I disagree with the chief of Sarnia. We have a very admirable program at the police college here. Indeed, the program is an excellent one. We are looking at it at present to make some variations. When we get around to making those variations, we may see some changes, but until that time the policy still is that they do not pay for tuition.

#### CORRECTION OF RECORD

**Mr. Rotenberg:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise to correct the record. On Friday morning during the throne speech debate, there was a brief interjection from the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon) to the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breaugh). The member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk asked whether there was a definitive answer to the bell-ringing problem. The member for Oshawa said, "Yes, we do have an answer designed by the member for Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg), who put together one of the most extraordinary"—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Would the member please resume his seat. You can only correct your own record, not another member's record.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** I would like to rise on a point of privilege.

**Mr. Speaker:** It does not really matter. You can only correct your own record.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** I want to rise on a point of privilege. Can I do that?

**Mr. Speaker:** On another point?

**Mr. Rotenberg:** On a point of privilege. I just want to point out that the member for Oshawa on this point did misquote me. I was not the father of this whatsoever.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Breaugh:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to correct the record too.

**Mr. Speaker:** I hope it is your own.

**Mr. Breaugh:** It is my own. I would certainly like to rise to correct the record. I did not mean to imply that the member for Wilson Heights did something useful. I would never make that allegation.

**Mr. Speaker:** So much for that.



## PETITIONS

### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. Kolyn:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the member for Scarborough Centre (Mr. Drea), I would like to present the following petition:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

It is signed by three constituents of the minister's riding.

**Mr. McGuigan:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from 31 school teachers who come from various schools in the riding of Kent-Elgin:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

### USE OF FORMER GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

**Mr. Di Santo:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a petition signed by 258 people that reads as follows:

"We, the undersigned, are petitioning the Lieutenant Governor against the possible plans of construction for what used to be the old Ministry of Transportation and Communications area in Downsview.

"Many people have heard different stories of possible low-rental high-rise apartments being built in the area. Residents of this area are not in favour of any of these buildings being construc-

ted. The area has always been a very quiet, respectable one, and the above would cause quite a change.

"Please let us know as soon as possible how this situation stands. The above may all be rumours, so please confirm it with any facts that you may have."

## HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"We the people of Ophir Lake, Poplar Dale, Leeburn and surrounding districts do hereby request of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications that the 13 kilometres between the two paved sections of Highway 638 be upgraded and surfaced because of the promise that it would be completed in 1980, increased tourist traffic during the entire year requires upgraded road surface, people commuting daily to work, the possibility of work for the unemployed in the area, several dangerous hills and curves of this highway need to be upgraded and the road surface has deteriorated appreciably in 1982-83."

This petition is signed by 414 people from Rock Lake, Patton Lake, Echo Bay, Desbarats, Bruce Mines, Bar River, Sault Ste. Marie, Thessalon, Iron Bridge, Heyden and various other communities in other regions of the province and Canada, including Vancouver.

## MOTION

### COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTIONS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the following substitutions be made on the following standing committees: on the standing committee on general government, Mr. Eakins for Mr. Epp; on the standing committee on members' services, Mr. Boudria for Mr. Wrye.

Motion agreed to.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### THRONE SPEECH DEBATE (concluded)

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I might indicate it has been agreed that we will split the time for the remaining three speakers in the throne speech debate and that the vote will be called at 5:45. I wonder whether we could have consent that the table keep time for the speakers.

**Mr. Speaker:** That shall be done.



3:40 p.m.

Resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the amendment to the motion for an address in reply to the speech of the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, speaking to the speech from the throne, I will be calling on Isaiah and John Yaremko to try to convince all members of the House that the two motions in opposition to this throne speech and its vacuousness are in order and should be supported by all members.

It is surely an inappropriate throne speech in this year. In rising to speak about the throne speech of 1984, one has all sorts of images of Big Brother, a government in absolute control, peeping into all our lives, knowing exactly what it is doing and making sure we do not have any access to what it is doing. Part of this is true. I think it is true the government does not share its information. I think it is true it peers too much into the lives of many of us. I myself am on a number of lists I am sure other members of the House are not on at this point.

The only point where I disagree is that I think the government seems to be totally out of control. It does not know what it is doing, has no vision of the future and is relying on past Conservative views of how life is ordained for those who "have" in Ontario. That will not lead us well. The speech from the throne was one of business as usual. It was brought to us by the people who did not bring us the auto sector's decline but who took credit for the auto sector's recovery. The people who had nothing to do with the rape of our natural resources are telling us they brought us Hemlo and the recovery of the natural resources base of northern Ontario.

In my view, we have a government that is amoral, bankrupt of ideas and is trying to quiet the deep, fundamental insecurity of the times that many people are feeling with soothing words of yesteryear, harking back to things such as a notion of the family, which may never have existed and certainly does not exist today, instead of confronting the future with new ideas, new solutions, new approaches, and admitting that all it has done has not worked.

The government masks a recovery-dependent analysis with a notion of some things it may want to do. Everything it is saying is based on some recovery taking place that we can all tag on to. It is saying very little about where it will lead us and what it thinks are some of the major questions of the day, including what I consider to be the major

moral question of the day: Will we continue in this province and country with the politics of abandonment? Will we continue with the politics of alienation and with the disfranchisement of a certain sector of our population as long as the rest of us continue to benefit?

Will this moral base or immoral base—

**Mr. Sargent:** Which is it?

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** It is immoral, but it is an ethical question. That is why I am raising it.

Will we change and consider that we have to have a different ethos, or will we continue along the same lines? This government has decided we will continue along the same lines. By doing so, it is drawing lines between us as a people, it is dealing with class politics, it is dealing with the politics of greed, and it is dealing with politics that have nothing to do with the basic ethics our society is based on, ethics of social responsibility and some idea of egalitarian mobility that we all thought was part of the Canadian way of life.

It is not only this government. There are many governments in the country that have fallen into this vacuum of ideas and allow some people to suffer greatly while the rest of us get by. The politics of abandonment say that structuralized poverty—that is, maintaining a certain number of poor people in our society—is acceptable. In today's age, adding even more people to that group is still acceptable as long as the rest of us get by.

This policy comes from a government that continually tries to pacify the majority, continually responds to polls and never considers the minority at all and the devastation that can take place for the majority if the rights of the minority in this situation, those who are being abandoned, are not taken into consideration.

Our elections and this whole notion of politics in this province is one of a 38-day period where we go out and try to sell ourselves to people so they make a choice saying: "Who serves me best? Who is going to look after me best?" There is no concept of looking at major social issues and at directions of our time. Between elections, we also deal with the power of the lobby and the power of the poll. If people do not have power in our society, we do not listen to them. That is particularly true of this government. If one does not have to listen to them, then one can ignore them.

Until the Catholic bishops stood up a couple of years ago and said the fact we would decide to have high interest rate policies and allow high unemployment is unconscionable in human terms, we as legislators did not take it seriously. I



suggest the government is still not taking it seriously.

There is a group in Nipissing known as Isaiah 58. I had no idea what this was until I read a little story about it the other day. This is a group of people who have decided they are fundamentally offended by the ethics of our society as embodied by our governments which keep people in poverty. They are going to take the words of the prophet, take direction from our Judaeo-Christian structure and ethos in this society and take responsibility themselves for poor people in their society and among their neighbours. They have drawn on this particular saying, and if I might quote from Isaiah:

"And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday.

"And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not."

As members know, I am not the kind of person who quotes Isaiah, the prophets or religious tracts very much, but it seems to me there is a message there for government. There is a presumption by government that if it looks after the poor, somehow there will be retaliation against it. There is a presumption that if it finally brings in equitable social welfare programs for people, somehow people will respond negatively to it; because the politics of greed are so imbued, people will respond against that and say, "We are being overtaxed."

There is a presumption that by doing that somehow the government is throwing away money that it cannot get back to help us. The message from that prophecy is that we will all benefit if we look after the poorest among us. If we open ourselves and make our major priority those who are disadvantaged, instead of abandoning them and looking after ourselves, we will be protected, our society will grow and we will have wealth for all of us.

I would suggest if we do not act now, the seeds for our own destruction as a society are among us. Our destruction will either come because of the fundamental immorality of what we are doing as we glean the profits and riches of our society while others suffer, or those people who have been held down and the new people who are among them, and I suggest to the government there is an anger growing, will take it out on all of us. Our society will no longer be the safe place it is. We will have the guard-dog society of those

who have been protecting themselves in real hard terms with dogs and their gates closed, instead of an open society. We will all suffer a great deal.

I think there is some resonance to this call at the moment. That is why groups like Isaiah 58 have been established and the church is speaking out more. The reason is there are more poor people now, not fewer poor than in the past. In hard terms, more than 300,000 children in this province are in poverty. The latest statistics show that 500,000 more people last year were added to the ranks of the poor in terms of any of the various poverty lines one wants to choose.

**3:50 p.m.**

The other reason is there is a new poor and it is a poor we all know and see. These are people who never expected to be poor in their lives. They did all the right things, went to the right schools, thought they had good jobs, belonged to unions, and thought they were protected from layoffs. Those people are the new poor. What they have done is bring a whole new vulnerability into our society. There is a whole new sense it is not just the predictable groups that are poor and that we can just take for granted, but it could be any of us or our sons and daughters. That is why there is a new resonance and a new acceptability for government to move in this area.

Who are the new poor? First, they are invisible in our society because we have developed a structuralized welfare state keeping people in perpetual poverty, but with just enough. We do not have kids with distended stomachs. We do not have people who dress so differently, except for very marginal people such as the bag ladies and bag men on the streets of Toronto. Except for those people, one does not see them.

At a meeting I was at, the member of Wilson Heights (Mr. Rotenberg) said he did not think the problem of the homeless was as serious as people thought it was, because he did not see them. It is true; one does not see them.

When I leave my home and drive through the Beaches, I do not see them. I see them when I am on Dundas Street around Sherbourne or Parliament streets. This is where I see the very poor, the only visible poor in our society. The rest are living in Ontario Housing Corp. housing and therefore are out of our way; or they are living piled up with neighbours, in homes with families who do not have the resources to look after them but who have to look after them because there is no housing for those people. Then we do not see them.

Because of the stigma we place on people who are poor in our society, they do not make



themselves evident. They want to hide, because what they believe, and everything they are told in our society, is that if you do not succeed here you will succeed nowhere and therefore you are a failure. They are told this is the land of milk and honey and if they would show some gumption they would do fine. Therefore, they do not show themselves.

They are the same poor they have always been. They are women. They are disabled. They are people on welfare. They are ex-psychiatric patients. Now, as well, they are older workers who have worked for many years, never expecting to be laid off. They are young people who have never had a job in the three years since they have been out of the education system and who now do not believe the beer ads they see on TV that tell us we all can and should have homes away from home in the Muskokas with every kind of gizmo imaginable to rely on.

They are also the new vulnerable people. The new vulnerable people are linked to the new poor. They are steel workers who do not know what is going to happen to their plants. We have seen plants shut down that no one ever suspected would be shut down. They wonder if they are next.

The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America wonder the same thing. There are the machinists. They are highly skilled people who thought getting that skilled trade would provide them with some kind of security, and they no longer have it. They are public servants who, when they see what has happened in other provinces, wonder when it is going to happen here.

I want to talk about two phenomena. One is the government's abandonment and the other is the government's permissive allowing of parasites in the system, parasites on the poor, taking no action to stop them victimizing the poor in our society.

The first major thing I want to talk about is housing. I will not go into it in much detail because of what the members have already heard today; a small number of new housing starts announced. We have no way to meet the incredible waiting lists of people who are suffering around this province. They are living in intolerable conditions.

The waiting lists for public housing are so long now that just to get those people who are on them into the present spaces would take three years to clear the lists. This government should have announced a major move in construction of

public housing in the throne speech. There is no reason why it could not have done so.

Let us look at government abandonment of these people in terms of their incomes. I raised with the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea) a couple of days ago the ludicrous situation of having people who look after children who are not being cared for by their own families given more money than families in economic difficulties who look after their own children.

I pointed to the fact that in Ontario a mother with three children at the maximum shelter allowance would receive \$699 a month if she were on general welfare and \$800 a month if she were on family benefits. Yet, if her child were taken from her for a number of reasons, many of which, as children's aid societies will tell us, are founded on money and the incapacity to find other options, and she gave those children over to a foster parent and they had no other exceptional problems, that foster parent would receive \$1,239 a month to look after those kids. The difference in a year is \$5,268.

Think of what that mother could have provided for her children. Think of how the home could have been stabilized. Think of the services she might have purchased in order to be able to keep those children with her in the natural home, and yet we do not have that kind of an emphasis in our policy.

I also want to mention the whole anomaly of the handicapped and the single elderly in what we give them in pensions. How is it that at this stage in 1984 we can still find it acceptable for the handicapped single to receive \$150 to \$160 a month less than the single senior citizen to live on? They are going to be handicapped for the rest of their lives, just as senior citizens will be old for the rest of their lives.

They are in need of more money because they have special kinds of problems. We provide prosthetic devices for some but not for others, and then we pay only three quarters of that amount.

I have a case handed to me by the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) of a person who was working with the March of Dimes in a work program. She was injured on the job. She fought for and got compensation payments. Those compensation payments are only three quarters of the earnings she had while she was working with the March of Dimes and she had an income there that was so low it was supplemented by family benefits. Because she is now on Workers' Compensation Board benefits at three quarters of



what she received, she is not eligible for that family benefit. She has been cut off from it now. It is an absolutely ludicrous kind of anomaly in terms of basic income support needs.

We have the case of a welfare system that needs a total overhaul, where a welfare administrator in one community can provide the first and last month's rent to help people with housing, yet in the next community a few miles away an administrator will not give either the first or last month's rent but will put all sorts of impediments in the way of an applicant.

When I was in London, there was a debate in city council of the notion that if we were to increase our welfare rates and discretionary powers to aid the people who were there, people would flock to us from other areas and we would have all the poor to look after who were not our poor there in London, the home of millionaires. This kind of ethic develops at the municipal level.

We have a welfare rate system based on the property tax, which is ludicrous and which keeps it low at all times. We have the question of support services being cut back to the point of abandonment. Not only do we leave these people with less money than they should have, we also do not provide them with proper services.

I am thinking of the takeover of the Family and Children's Services of the District of Kenora under the ruse of children being at risk—very much the ruse of them being at risk. We had the government move in because the two parties were in financial disagreement. All the work done since then by the minister's people has been to investigate financial problems. They are doing very little to investigate quality of care. The same kind of threat is being put to the Children's Aid Society of Ottawa-Carleton. The Children's Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto cut back programs it did not wish to cut. Just at a time when we need more programs for the people these societies are servicing, we are having cutbacks.

Who is it we are cutting back from? I refer again to the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto analysis of whom it works for: gross annual family income under \$8,000, 66 per cent; more than \$20,000 a year, 0.34 per cent of its clientele. We are taking away money from the poor when we take away money from these kinds of support services. We continue our process of abandonment.

I see the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) is gone. We have now taken away Ontario student assistance for people with grade 9, grade 10 or grade 11 education who want to go to

community colleges to get upgrading, to take courses that will equip them for life in the modern world. As a result, the following is the situation in London. Because of these cutbacks, they now must depend only on the Canada Manpower capacity to get into these programs. The waiting list is 16 months to 18 months long for these people, who are probably the least equipped educationally in terms of participating in our modern society. It is the least equipped we take money away from.

**4 p.m.**

I would like to refer to our abandonment of the older workers. SKF Canada is a very hard thing for me to deal with because I deal with it on a regular and personal basis in regard to people in my riding who come into my office on a regular basis. The latest information on those people who lost their jobs two and a half years ago is as follows:

Thirty-six per cent of the employees are still without full-time work. Their average age is now 53. Sixty-three per cent of the women are without full-time work after two and a half years. We have abandoned them. Sixty-four per cent of these unemployed workers are receiving no assistance at all from government. They are eating up their family savings and digging into their registered retirement savings plans. One welfare administrator told me recently that to get welfare one of these older workers would have to give up his RRSP, which is his future.

These people are going through incredible stress. It is not only the ones who are unemployed, but also the ones who are employed because they have no job security, which they thought they had before. They have gone through an incredible deskilling. Fifty-five per cent of those who are working are using fewer skills than they used to use at SKF. Only 21 per cent are at the higher skill level.

What does that mean in terms of families? It means 36 per cent of those people are without any kind of hope for the future. They have now been almost three years without anything, and there is no sign that government gives a damn about them. They are now being sloughed off like the rest of them. They are eating up everything they have worked for in those years because they are not eligible for any kind of government assistance. They are expected to be happy and they are not. Their families are disintegrating, their health problems are increasing at a very frightening rate and we have abandoned them.

If one looks at the working poor and how we have abandoned them, one has to go no further



than the people my leader the member for York South (Mr. Rae), the member for Hamilton East (Mr. Mackenzie) and I have pointed out. They are the people who are already relatively lowly paid, the nursing home workers in Ontario who now, through contracting-out processes, are perhaps being asked to come back to jobs at \$4.50 an hour because the nursing home owners do not want to pay the \$7 or \$8 an hour they finally earned after many years when they became unionized.

The government is doing nothing to help those women. It wants to wait for the Ontario Labour Relations Board to make decisions rather than understanding that the situation is totally unjust and that we should amend the Employment Standards Act immediately to stop it. Again, the most vulnerable worker is being left with nothing.

What are we doing in terms of the working poor with regard to their access to a better tax system to help them, to give them some incentive to work, if we think the work ethic is so important? What are we doing in terms of premium assistance? Many of them are not eligible for it. Many others who are eligible are not told about it and are left to languish.

We have the ludicrous situation now in many municipalities across the province of unemployed workers and people on welfare going to their local transportation committees and corporations and asking to travel half-fare or with passes for the unemployed because they cannot afford to go out and look for work. They cannot afford to buy the tickets. Does this government do anything for them? No, it does not. It allows them to be left without protection.

It is not only a passive government we have here in terms of not providing for the poor, but also a government that allows people to victimize and prey upon the very poorest in our society. If there is one thing this government should be ashamed of and should be acting immediately to try to redress, it is what it has allowed to take place over the past years, namely, the development of a whole network of parasites in our society who are feeding off those who are most disadvantaged.

The other day I raised in the House the question of National Money Mart for people who cannot afford to wait two or three days to cash their cheques or who do not have very much identification because of the transient nature of their existence. These people have to go to places to get their cheques cashed and it costs them six per cent to do it. That should be illegal in our

province. Why do we not have the Peel example of social assistance cheques deposited directly being used systematically across Ontario? The basic problem here, of course, is why we do not give them enough money so that, like us here in this chamber, they can make the choice without pressure and without coercion from the financial stress they are feeling to go to one of these places to cash their cheques.

The member for Bellwoods (Mr. McClellan) raised the question of what is happening with this illegal rent rebate system, in which a company has actually set itself up and is allowed to operate in Ontario by charging 50 per cent of what people are legally entitled to get back because they have been overcharged by some landlord who knew exactly what he was doing.

How can we think this is just? I believe the figure the member raised was \$150,000 that this person has already made from these people. I do not know how many of those people are poor; I do not know how many of them are among the majority of the poor who are struggling to get by in private housing because they cannot get into public housing, but a number of them must be. Yet we allow it to continue.

**Mr. Philip:** It shows how many illegal rents there are.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** As the member for Etobicoke says, it also shows how many illegal rents there are.

There is Jobmart. Jobmart is now finding itself to be relatively unsuccessful. This is a job location firm that has been operating around Ontario that charges people a fee for finding them a job.

This government has done nothing to try to put them out of business. What put them out of business is the fact that word of mouth got around that they were not any better at getting them jobs than Employment and Immigration Canada was, so why go and spend the extra money? Or it may have been because workers in London went and picketed in front of those offices on a regular basis and then said they would set up a free service for people, and that put them out of business.

But the government allowed it to take place. The government did not see anything wrong with developing this kind of profiteering system in Ontario, with this kind of parasite coming to leech off those people who were feeling most vulnerable, who were most desperate to try to get themselves some work and who were not being properly assisted by government programs, federal or provincial.



We have the situation where Workers' Compensation Board victims go to people for assistance and find out, as they do if they go to the Disabled Workers of Ontario, that there is a membership fee of \$20 to be paid and then there is an initial consultation of \$50 to be paid; then they will take the person's case and charge him 10 per cent of what he gets back, of what he deserved in the first place. It is not happening just with that group; there is a group in Hamilton as well, the Independent Workers' Consultants, that uses a similar kind of system.

Why is this happening? It is because we are not giving enough money to the community legal clinics to provide them with enough staff to help these people. These people should not have to pay anything; they should not have to pay for what they rightfully will be getting back. These parasites should not be able to feed on them.

I learned just recently of three cases in Ottawa, of which the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (Mr. Elgie) is well aware in that he received letters from the social planning council there many months ago about a blacklisting operation which promises to tell landlords who are the bad tenants and who are the bad risks. They do it on a computerized list and mail it out to everybody. It operates in Vancouver now, it is in Montreal and now it is coming into Ontario as well.

A great ad was placed in one of the local papers, which stated: "Landlords, before you let, protect against renting to tenants who might pass bad cheques, create excessive cleaning costs, harbour unauthorized tenants, cause you lost rent, damage the building, leave the building without giving the traditional 30 days' notice." This kind of service, this kind of blacklist that is available to landlords in Ottawa is a notion of what this service would be, and it will no doubt spread around the rest of the province without anyone having access to the list to know if his name is on it and with no expungement process even if there is something about it that is unfair and inequitable.

The government has not moved. The government allows these kinds of parasites to continue to exist and to proliferate in Ontario. Why do we not have laws to protect workers who, as I found out in Thunder Bay when I was there, applied for a full-time job at a restaurant, but because there were 250 applicants, the owner decided to change the full-time job to a couple of part-time positions with no benefits? How is it that we allow this to take place in Ontario?

Victimization is taking place and is happening to women on a systematic basis across this province at the moment.

**4:10 p.m.**

We allow sheltered workshops to exist where people are paid a pittance, even if they are capable of earning much more than the minimum wage, in order to subsidize private enterprise. Companies go there to get things packaged for very minimal cost so they can make a profit in the novelties' field or something around the province.

The government is in league with businesses that pay young people terrible amounts of money—\$100 of provincial money a week on the Ontario career action program. It has not changed that for years. It pays young people \$100 a week to work for somebody for a limited length of time. After that time the employer gets rid of that person and then becomes eligible to hire students again. We support that kind of process, as does the federal government with its program of supposedly helping people with affirmative action.

Once it is no longer economically viable totally or partially to rip off that system, the employer stops. Often the employer goes back to the head of the list of those who can employ again. Our government supports that kind of thing.

The other thing I would raise with the minister, who has just entered, is the whole question of what is usury in real terms? What are we going to do to counteract the use of credit cards and the push for those who cannot afford it to use credit cards that is being promoted in our consumer society? We heard cases from credit counsellors across the province where department stores like Woolco were charging people 32 per cent interest. That is not usury in the definition in the law books, but by god, it is total victimization of people who cannot afford that sort of thing.

We have credit counselling agencies for the new poor who are on social assistance. If the new poor come in with debts, the agencies throw up their hands and say: "There is nothing we can do. All we can do is write your creditors and tell them you cannot afford to pay anything." There are credit counselling agencies funded by this government that do not even allow people on social assistance in the door because they do not believe they can help them when they have been victimized and caught in the system of the economic disasters that have been brought on us.

The government will argue there is no money there. We have heard it any number of times.



They argue they cannot afford to continue to dump money into poverty programs. The percentage amount we put into poverty programs has not changed over the last decade; it has not changed one iota. This government can talk about building a domed stadium at the same time that it does not continue to dump money into poverty programs. The percentage amount we put into poverty programs has not changed over the last decade; it has not changed one iota. This government can talk about building a domed stadium at the same time that it does not give money to the poor. This government can actually talk about its one major housing project, fallout shelters, so we can all incinerate ourselves together if there is a nuclear war, but it does not have money for the poor.

We have money for the salaries of members, to protect ourselves from the cost of inflation. We have money for doctors, who have the most powerful union in this province, but we do not have enough money for the poor. We have money to put into family time capsules. That is probably a good thing because if we do not provide real family support services to families around the province, all we will have is a memory of what families were by the year 2010 or whenever it is those are supposed to be dug up. We can remember the year of the Loyalists and spend money on that, but we cannot redress the basic inequality in our system.

I would suggest the trickle-up system is as good as the trickle-down system. We are not going to have people who are being given this money spending it in Florida on condominiums or outside the country in other kinds of investments, as we see when we give breaks to big business. I would suggest it is time we had a major redress of that situation.

In my research I pulled out an interesting document, thanks to the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) who keeps these things on the public file longer than most. This is the last thing I ever saw the government do on poverty in any major way, without some of the fiddling it did later. It was a presentation to the Senate committee on poverty made by the Honourable John Yaremko and his deputy ministry. Although a lot of it was a cover-your-posterior kind of approach to why, at that point, the government was not doing as much as it could on poverty, there were some incredible lines in it.

This is a definition of poverty. "A social assistance payment based on need is also a definition of a minimal acceptable standard of living or a poverty line." In other words, the

government decides on an appropriate social assistance level. Anybody below that is in poverty, but anybody above that is fine. That means we would have no poor. I think that policy has obviously been followed up.

It is fascinating as well in that he talked about education as being the means of getting kids out of the cyclical poverty line. We know that has not happened. Children from the same families are the same poor, and education by itself has not done that.

One major thing he talked about, which I thought was useful and which was never acted upon, was the need to have a greater interaction between the working poor and the taxation and social assistance system. He also said it was time for "a re-evaluation of the existing income maintenance structure."

I say to the minister it is now time to do that. It is time to get rid of all the anomalies and anachronisms in our social assistance structure. It is time for us to look at some real ways of providing incentives to the working poor, so they will want to continue to work and continue to persist in the hope of gaining what the rest of us have, and to help those who are on public assistance to fare better.

It is time to start talking about a new balance of a fair share and a fair chance in global terms. We have not been doing that; we have not addressed that. We have got by through throwing money at groups and not re-evaluating our systems and why they have not worked.

It is time we should have seen in the speech from the throne a challenge to society to set up a new social contract and to get back to a sense of social responsibility. We should not just look after our own best interests. We should understand we have this role and need to look after those who are less fortunate in our society.

Besides a total revamping of the social assistance system—and I have called for a public review of that in the past—I again call upon the minister to have that initiated at the earliest opportunity. It should not be a private one done in the ministry. It should be something that is done publicly where we can all look at why the system has not worked and why there are so many who are poor and who are left disadvantaged and abandoned.

We need to have a major increase in our family support programs. We need to bring in flexible retirement ages, as my leader has said. If we brought in that, it would open up all sorts of job opportunities. It would be a new kind of sharing



that would take place so that those who wish to retire would be able to afford to.

We need to bring in fully portable pensions, not as something we are going to re-examine for another couple of years, but as something we should be looking at right now. We need to look at some special programs immediately to protect older workers. How can we sit here two and a half years after the SKF workers were laid off, productive members of our society who for 25 and 26 years paid their taxes, knowing they are unemployed, that their families are going through breakups, and that they are in the position of writing me or coming in and saying, "Should I sell my home, the one thing I have been able to put forward for my kids in the future?"

Children are having to give up post-secondary education opportunities because they do not want to be a drain on the family. It is not just SKF but plants across this province. How can we sit here and allow that to continue without bringing in something that makes those people feel we give a damn about them, that we want to reintegrate them into society, and that we do not want them hiding in shame in their homes as valueless parts of our society, people who did not make it in Ontari-ari-ari-o?

We need major tax reform and we cannot wait for that. We need a budget brought down that will be aimed at the working poor, that will be aimed at low- and mid-income people, to give them some means of feeling less insecure than they do at the moment in our society, and showing we value their role.

**4:20 p.m.**

We need an end to overtime. As my leader has addressed it, we need a shorter work week with a concept of sharing. We need a whole revamping of our education and training system, not the kind of stuff we have been hearing from the Minister of Education, but a real revamping. It needs a major overhaul. This is not a time to be complacent. We need major construction programs.

To wrap this up, it struck me as I read the speech from the throne that its language was tired and complacent; it did not even deal with the division of rich and poor we are seeing in our society or with the disadvantaged out there we are not doing anything for. It is all based on "If the recovery comes along, we will be able to do this and this and this, but if it does not, we cannot. We do not have the capacity right now, with the enormous wealth in this province, to make sure we are all sharing more equitably and we all have a better chance in our society." The

only political group in this province I have heard talking about this has been this caucus and its leader.

If the 1984 throne speech had been written by the leader of the New Democratic Party in Ontario, we would have had a speech of vision, one that was forward-looking and wanted to talk about and challenge some of the concepts out there, and not one that slavishly followed old, pat answers, which were nonanswers in 1970 when Mr. Yaremko was talking about them and still are in 1984 when the Treasurer (Mr. Grossman) and the Minister of Community and Social Services talk about them.

I suggest to the House that this speech from the throne is unacceptable. It is an affront to the people of Ontario. I ask all members to support this party's motion to defeat the throne speech motion.

**Mr. Riddell:** Mr. Speaker, I deem it a pleasure to be given an opportunity to wind up the Liberal Party response to the throne speech. Believe me, it is no small task to try to match the excellent speeches my colleagues orated so well in their responses to the throne speech. However, I will give it the old college boy try.

As I sat in the Legislature on opening day listening to the Lieutenant Governor outline the government's legislative agenda for this session, I could not help but think of the parable in the Bible of the farmer planting grain. Some of the seed fell on rocky soil, and after germination, the plants soon withered and died.

As with many previous throne speeches and other government pronouncements, such as the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development program, it became very obvious to me that the government has once again reached into a bag of mixed grain, grabbed a handful and scattered it over rocky soil. Unlike the parable, much of the seed will never germinate, but in keeping with the parable, the plants arising from the seed that does germinate will soon wither and die.

Youth employment programs, skills training, women's issues, nursing homes, environmental board procedures, financial community task forces, workers' compensation reforms, an advisory council on agriculture and province-wide testing in Ontario schools are some of the seeds that will be scattered over the Ontario terrain this year. Unless these seeds are well watered by the budget, they are doomed to a long life of dormancy.

If we were to dig up some of those dormant seeds that have been lying in the ground over the past few years, we would find anything from



freedom of information to youth employment, job training, assistance to business, energy sources, labour-management relations, women in the work force, workers' compensation, housing, the health care system and education.

I have selected excerpts from Ontario Conservative throne speeches dating back to the beginning of the Davis years. If time permitted, I could give many examples of this government's failure to produce. Time however, does not permit, so I will confine my remarks to that part of the stony area where the seeds of education, provincial grants for municipalities and agriculture fell.

So much needs to be said about other areas of major concern that my colleagues and I share, such as the unemployment problem in this province. I could devote an entire speech to this most serious matter, but I will not take the limited time available to me to repeat what other members of this Legislature have said so well about the unemployment situation in Ontario.

Before I get into the meat of my speech, I want to forewarn the government that we in the official opposition will be strenuously opposing the section of Bill 17, formerly Bill 153, which limits the campaign process to 30 days.

The move to shorten the campaign process is so typical of this ageing Conservative government. It represents an assault on the democratic process and an insult to the citizens of Ontario. It is not designed to make the democratic process more open and accessible. It is designed solely to help the Tories cling to the power they are now so badly abusing after 40 years. Manipulation is the intent, nothing more and nothing less.

Such a short election campaign would enable the government to maximize its pre-election preparations and propaganda at the expense of the opposition parties, which do not have the luxury of timing the date of the writ. The opposition parties would be placed at an enormous disadvantage in attempting to gain the public attention necessary for the citizens of Ontario to weigh properly the merits of issues that come before them. We have no intention of allowing this to happen. We will go on record now as voting against that section of the bill.

I want to deal briefly with the seeds of education which were scattered over stony soil by this government. In June 1966, the then minister of Education, now the Premier (Mr. Davis), addressed the issue of grade 13 in Ontario. He said:

"The recommendation for reorganization of the 13-year program to a 12-year program was

made by the grade 13 study committee in 1964 as part of its ideal solution for the problems of grade 13. Later, the university matriculation board urged that this change could be made more speedily than was envisaged by the study committee."

Then the Minister of Education said:

"I should like to sound a note of caution. The timing of a change of this magnitude is most important. In any change it is important that curriculum builders should be able to make ample provision for individual differences and varying rates of growth in students."

At the time the then Minister of Education made these comments on the grade 13 problem, he was still awaiting the report of the Hall-Dennis committee on education.

In the most recent speech from the throne we were promised province-wide assessment. This measure was obviously considered to rectify the disaster created by the former Minister of Education. In 1966, to save \$2 million, he scrapped the grade 13 departmental examinations. He hoped user-paid scholastic aptitude and achievement tests would take the place of the grade 13 exams, but they did not.

A decade of vague curriculum guidelines brought in by that same Minister of Education guaranteed no standards of competence would exist in the province. It would not have mattered, however, in so far as no Ministry of Education review was ever established to find out whether curriculum guidelines were being followed.

Now, having sown the wind, this government reaps the whirlwind. Employers do not believe grade 12 graduates are sufficiently literate. Universities know large numbers of grade 13 students in their first year cannot write the language at a minimum university level. Boards of education across the province, such as Ottawa-Carleton, Lincoln county and Peterborough, were going to establish their own standard school-leaving exam. Since 1966 there has been a 300 per cent inflation of high school marks as evidenced by the percentage of Ontario grade 13 honours graduates who are awarded honours scholarships. All this can be laid at the feet of the Premier, the former Minister of Education.

The Hall-Dennis report did not appear for another two years. But when it was submitted—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Did you ever read it?

**Mr. Riddell:** —the former minister was not so cautious about implementation of the Living and Learning report.



**Mr. Nixon:** See? He got the title right.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** That is all he knows.

**Mr. Riddell:** The resulting free-wheeling curriculum that he so quickly incorporated had profound and unfortunate consequences for hundreds of thousands of students in Ontario.

4:30 p.m.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** He did not ever read the report.

**Mr. Riddell:** I hope Hansard gets the minister's interjections, because this is what she really wants. She came into the House so she could interject and get her name in Hansard. I hope Hansard will be sure to pick up the interjections. However, I consider it a bit of a rude insult.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Robinson):** Please ignore the interjections and continue with your remarks.

**Mr. Riddell:** Am I getting some flak from the chair too?

Twenty years later, the present Minister of Education has to devote herself to undoing the damage. The former Minister of Education, now the Premier, was experimenting with a generation of our children but, unfortunately, the experiment failed miserably.

Strangely, the one step urged on the then Minister of Education, the phasing out of grade 13, has taken 20 years to accomplish. In 1967, the Ontario Liberals were on record as advocating an overhaul of the secondary school system so the average student would complete primary and secondary studies in 12 years.

It is interesting to note the caution sounded by the then Minister of Education, the Ontario Liberal Party's awareness that phasing in was essential and the secondary education review project's recommendation that the switch to 12 years of school proceed gradually from grade 7 and over five years.

All these wise words have been completely ignored by the present Minister of Education, who is dumping the new curriculum holus-bolus on schools. No phasing in whatsoever is going on, and high schools are now in chaos as, in September 1985, grade 13 will disappear.

The promise of province-wide assessment in the speech from the throne was a sham and was quickly withdrawn. The headline story of the Ontario Citizen on March 27, 1984, sums up the humming and hawing that went on after the throne speech. The headline reads, "Stephenson Backs Down on Mandatory School Tests."

The former Minister of Education's commitment to our school system evaporated almost overnight upon his elevation to Premier. In his last annual report as Minister of Education, published in 1970, the member for Brampton asserted this promise: "The grant plan for 1970 was designed to increase the proportion of the total cost of education borne by the province in accordance with the announced policy of the government to increase its grant support to 60 per cent of the overall cost of education by 1972."

From information given by today's Minister of Education to the Liberal Education critic, the promise may once have been achieved: in 1975, the province paid 61.3 per cent of school expenditures. However, by 1983 this government's share had dropped to 48.5 per cent of the cost of education.

**An hon. member:** They made poor investments.

**Mr. Nixon:** They sank all their money in Suncor.

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Riddell:** The shambles left by the education experiment of the former Minister of Education must still be addressed. Sadly, the efforts of the present Minister of Education are focused almost entirely on taking money out of the system: cuts to school boards, shrinking the university system and freezing the community college system. All this comes at a time when, as the Treasurer points out, "well-trained personnel are essential for innovation and economic transformation."

It is imperative that this government do more than right the wrongs of the former Minister of Education. It must restore a high priority to education at all levels. It must enthusiastically support innovation in education and free our schools, colleges and universities from stifling bureaucracy.

This government must encourage co-operation within the education system, and the first step must be taken within government by abandoning the confrontational posture taken towards all members of the education community. The phrase "consultation with the minister" must have real and genuine meaning restored to it.

Time is moving on, so I would like to move to the next piece of stony ground that received the seeds—provincial grants to municipalities.

Just over a year ago, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Mr. Bennett) released a proposal to change the formula for calculating unconditional grants from a per capita method to one based upon households. The discussion



paper noted, "With a household grant, the municipalities with a high ratio of residents per household would tend to lose, while municipalities with a low ratio would tend to win."

The government has now announced that it is in effect moving to such a system, despite its many denials in recent months, particularly during the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry by-election. While the minister maintained the municipalities never really complained, many of them felt the government was attempting to push through changes well in advance of a provincial election. Suspicions about the government's intentions were exacerbated by the fact that the municipal finance branch's printout of the financial impact analysis of the government's proposal was not distributed to municipalities but kept confidential.

In June 1983, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario issued a counterproposal, which stated that a grant system based solely on a household formula was unacceptable. Many municipalities and the Ontario Liberal caucus urged that no municipality should be a loser. August 1983 saw the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing agreeing to meet with Kirkland Lake council to discuss the government's proposal in the light of increasing concerns in the province. He also stated in a letter to the mayor, "I appreciate that you recognize the difficulties of implementing any changes without having some winners and losers in the process."

During the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry by-election campaign, Liberals warned that municipalities across the province would be compelled to raise taxes or reduce essential services as a result of a Tory plan to move to the household system. The minister categorically denied there was a government policy to change the present method of determining provincial funding to municipalities and said, "Such statements are completely incorrect."

Campaigning in the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry by-election, the Premier stated that Liberal claims about a plan to cut grants were a fabrication. Let me quote the Premier: "Categorically, unequivocally, without hesitation, any adjective you want, it is just not true." The Minister of Education, also campaigning in the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry by-election, said the Liberal statements were "plainly false, quite untrue. It is unfortunate that he"—meaning the Liberal candidate—"has sunk to that level this early in the campaign."

Just two months after the by-election, in which Liberal charges were categorically denied, the

province announced that it is indeed moving to a household grant system. However, in an attempt to hide the impact of the inevitable losses, a so-called revenue guarantee is being provided. This one-year guarantee means that while now under the household formula every municipality in 1984 will be guaranteed an increase of at least 2.5 per cent, the true impact of the new system will be felt in 1985, probably after a provincial election.

Many municipalities, particularly in Huron-Middlesex, were under the impression they would receive an increase of at least five per cent. Under the Treasurer's new mathematics, it appears that five per cent will only get one 2.5 per cent, and the fact is that at least 50 per cent of Ontario municipalities will not even receive an amount equivalent to the anticipated increase in the rate of inflation for fiscal 1984.

More important, the government, which maintained that our concerns about the impact of the household formula were unfounded because they were based on a discussion paper or an academic exercise, is now implementing a policy it disowned four months ago during the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry by-election. What does one call that if it is not government by deception?

**4:40 p.m.**

As a consequence of the formula change, as we pointed out last fall, there will be significant losses to many municipalities in Ontario. This will result in reduced services or higher property taxes, unless the minister is prepared to extend further revenue guarantees. The minister owes the municipalities and property taxpayers a clear explanation of his intentions. Instead, with the revenue guarantee, he has given them what amounts to nothing more than a stay of execution. Once again we have a typical provincial government shell game with the taxpayers' money in which the people of Ontario will be the losers.

Finally, I want to move to that tremendously large area of stony ground which receives the seeds of agriculture. I listened to some very interesting comments about this industry from the various members of the Legislature in their responses to the throne speech, and I must hasten to give credit to the member for Welland-Thorald (Mr. Swart) who obviously went back through Hansard to familiarize himself with Liberal agricultural policy.

The report submitted by the New Democratic Party task force was fundamentally a regurgitation of policies and programs the Liberal Party has laid before the government over the past



number of years. We are most pleased to see the NDP will now be supporting us in our endeavours to get agriculture back on its feet here in Ontario.

In my response to the throne speech, dealing with agriculture, I am not going to shout criticism at the government for its past failures to the rural people of this province, nor am I going to rehash Liberal policy as obviously supported by the NDP, but I do want to tell it as it is in rural Ontario by addressing two major issues—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** That will be a switch.

**Mr. Riddell:** —the erosion of the family farm and, by association, the erosion of rural communities in Ontario.

Perhaps I can best get my message across to the members of this assembly by speaking as one who has lived and worked in rural Ontario for most of my life, unlike the Minister of Education who chooses to make some rather caustic remarks in her interjections.

Travelling with the Liberal task force on rural municipalities across this province and meeting people working and living in rural Ontario, I have often visualized myself sitting as a member of a farm organization or even as an individual farmer making a presentation to the task force. In the same sense, I would like the members to visualize me as a farmer rather than as a member of Parliament making this presentation to the Ontario government.

Mr. Speaker, with your infinite wisdom, perhaps you can tell me how we, as farmers, can stop or perhaps reverse the potential disaster to which I alluded earlier, the erosion of the family farm and, by association, the erosion of the rural community in Ontario. It is not an easy task, but in my view we must begin by convincing the urban majority and the politicians elected by that same urban majority that there is a problem.

How do we communicate when the cities control the media and the rural press is rarely read outside its local sphere? What chance do we have when the cities formulate the ideas, opinions and policies which affect rural people and the urban population places an ever-growing demand on the public purse for services? Only by supreme efforts by rural leaders will this trend be changed.

The evidence of rural erosion is everywhere: the empty barns and fields, the dilapidated fences, the farm newspapers full of advertisements for forced machinery auctions and discounted farms, the for sale signs up and down the concession roads springing up like weeds in a sad testimony to failure, the tax arrears, the family stress as farmers are forced to subsidize their

farm returns with off-farm income, and the troubled farm supply industry, from the local dealers to the Massey-Fergusons and the United Co-Operatives of Ontario. The list is virtually without end.

Too many once profitable farms can no longer support a family after farm expenses have been paid. Proud farmers can find jobs because they are not afraid of hard work, but that hardly helps the unemployment situation. Nor can farmers afford to hire young people, those hardest hit and looking desperately for that first job.

Instead, the whole farm family, man, woman and child, must go to the barn daily. What for? For the privilege of providing the Canadian public with the cheapest food in the western world. Little wonder there is frustration and stress on the farm. Little wonder we have groups springing up with names such as the Canadian Farmers' Survival Association, Women for the Survival of Agriculture and Concerned Farm Women. No wonder we have films called *Plenty of Nothing*, and *Ready for Slaughter*. The facts are there. The studies have been made. No further investigation is merited. The time for remedies is now.

There is an invisible transfer of wealth from the farm to the city. Ontario farmers pay about \$500 million each year to the banks in interest. That money ends up on Bay Street and precious little comes back to the rural areas. Instead, it often ends up in all manner of shaky loans ranging from South America to Poland and from the proposed dome to Maislin Transport Ltd.

In the Middle Ages farmers paid a 10 per cent tithe to their landlords. That was considered oppressive, but 500 years later in our supposedly just society many farmers pay 100 per cent of their residual income to the banks. For years we, as farmers, have substituted credit for earned income and for years we got away with it, living in ignorant bliss while inflation boosted our equity.

However, over the past few years returns in the beef, hog and grain sectors have been so minimal that Ontario farms now carry in excess of \$5 billion of debt. According to a 1983 study, Ontario farm land has dropped in value by a further \$3.25 billion with the result that the banks are securing ownership of rural Ontario by default while offshore investment capital is stepping in to buy our family farms as a speculative hedge.

With every tick of the clock the interest charges mount and the equity erodes. Until the Ontario government gets serious about agricul-



ture, the danger exists that our cherished family farm will cease to exist in its present number and style. That ticking clock is a time bomb and if it explodes Ontario agriculture will be in the hands of the corporate giants and consumers in the city, who have yet to understand our plight, will learn the hard way when they have to pay 30 per cent to 40 per cent of their disposable income for food, as is the case in many parts of the western world.

Farmers are not a greedy group. They simply want more respect from both government and the public. They are determined to convince both government and the public of their contribution to society and of their need and right to a bigger slice of the economic pie. Farmers are not asking for much, just their fair share or enough to ensure security for themselves and for the farmers of tomorrow.

At approximately \$9,000, farming has the lowest net income of all major industries in Canada, yet agriculture does and can play a major role in the economic fabric of the country, given a chance. While a person on unemployment insurance can draw more than an average farmer, the farmer is denied any use of this fund. Farmers pay 30 per cent more for their hydro than do their urban cousins. While this sprawling utility is virtually unaccountable to the Legislature, farmers under supply-managed commodities have to justify every penny increase they get.

While the Ministry of Agriculture and Food is running on a shoestring of \$290 million, or about one per cent of the budget, the government spends about \$150 million to subsidize the Toronto Transit Commission. When it comes to property taxes, farmers have to battle with a complicated, inequitable and unjust system of factors. In short, rural Ontario is playing against a stacked deck. Like all gamblers playing those odds, it is bleeding them to death.

Right now farmers are losing the capital base that was built up from pioneer days through to the 1970s. Agriculture must have new investment to take advantage of the new technology available. Without this, Ontario will lose its competitive advantage as the country's major farming province; but any investment has to be at low, affordable long-term rates or food will cost the consumer a lot more. We cannot produce cheap food with expensive loans and it does not take an economist, a government study, or an advisory council of the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Timbrell) to realize this.

In order to recapitalize our industry, we need help. Ideally, our products should command a profitable return from the marketplace and then

we could reinvest those profits. Unfortunately, the marketplace does not always yield those profits and the consumer demands cheap food while accepting increases for everything else.

**4:50 p.m.**

If this is favourable to the politician, they will have to put some dollars on the table. They cannot have it both ways. As farmers, we take no pride at all in the low price of food and it is time the public realized who is subsidizing whom.

Briefly, farmers need affordable long-term credit, and since the banks have proven to be fair-weather lenders the province must revive its role along the lines of that of the Alberta government. We need a reinstatement of the old junior farmer credit program or something similar to it. We need an agency like the former agricultural and rural development agreement to buy up farm land and lease it back to bona fide farmers to keep the family farm intact.

Farmers need immediate stabilization in the red meat industry; we need more guarantees on short-term money such as the Ontario farm adjustment assistance program, and we want committed funds to be spent, unlike OFAAP, where only \$25 million of the much-touted \$80 million has been used.

We applaud the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food's lead in educating farmers in better financial management, but for many it is too late. However, we must have the funding at the agricultural representative level so these front-line people have more time and resources available to work directly with the grass-roots farmers.

Building layers of middle management is not acceptable. Farmers need more provincial pressures on the federal politicians to revamp the Farm Credit Corp. and to bring in the agri-bond, as conceived by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

What we as farmers do not want is a host of studies, we do not want more political ping-pong and we do not want further delays. Farmers are getting restless, as is illustrated by the many resolutions that are being submitted by the various farm organizations to government at all three levels.

I have discussed briefly the erosion of the family farm in Ontario. At the beginning of my comments on the agriculture industry I said that, by association, small-town Ontario hinged its fate on that of our industry. Each time a farmer quits or is forced off the land, one more limb on the tree dies. Eventually a small business in town closes and a few more people join the \$12 billion



unemployment queue. Taxes and spending power are lost at all levels and the noose tightens. Ironically, some people drift off to the big cities and the rural Ontario problem compounds. This is the tragedy of rural Ontario today.

Finally, we as farmers would suggest that rural leaders take care not to surrender their local autonomy to urban planners. This is a great threat to rural Ontario. For instance, the proposed electoral boundary changes, which would effectively wipe some rural Ontario ridings off the map, must be opposed.

Country people have a hard time getting their point across to government as it is now, and to reduce the number of rural ridings while increasing that of the urban ridings further compounds the problems outlined previously. What does it matter if an Ontario riding that is huge in terms of distance does not have 70,000 constituents? Surely minority groups must be taken into consideration.

Some of the policies of this province, conceived right here in Toronto, are contrary to the best interests of our rural communities. Toronto-trained planners can lock rural Ontario into plans that deny those of us living and working in rural Ontario the right to use our country-bred common sense over matters vital to our local destiny.

Our numbers in rural Ontario are declining and our base is eroding. Farm leaders must work with governments and our governments must come to us with benevolent leadership. There is too much suffering on the concession roads. It is an absolute disgrace to this province and to this country.

We as farmers are angry and frustrated, but we shall survive to rebuild our farms and our communities. We can overcome hard times, but we cannot overcome a broken soul.

If I may now return to my role as a politician, I would remind this government that we in the Liberal Party have said for some time now that the agricultural budget of this government should be doubled. Surely this is not asking too much for an industry that is so important to the economy of this province.

To make room for an increase in the agricultural budget, the people of Ontario can do without shares in Suncor, they can do without a nuclear plant at Darlington, they can do without Minaki Lodge, and they certainly do not need the policy secretariats of this government. They find absolutely nothing of value in the land owned by this government which, to all intents and purposes, is sitting idle. The one thing the people

of this province cannot do without is food. Furthermore, the economy of this province cannot do without a strong agricultural industry, considering one out of every five people is employed by that industry.

By 1990 the world's current population of 4.3 billion is expected to reach five billion. By 1998, only 14 years away, it is estimated our numbers will grow to six billion. One of the commodities it is estimated will be in short supply by that time is food. The tragedy is the current government seems to have absolutely no idea of how crucial farming is to the future health and wealth of this province.

It is time we reversed the priorities of this government. Rural Ontario can be a major partner, indeed, a leading force, in economic recovery. It can produce exports, profits and jobs. This government has forgotten that Ontario was founded by farmers and that they are still among the most enterprising and productive groups in our society. Agriculture can continue to be the backbone of our economic development.

That is the course to which my colleagues and I are committed. We will continue to enunciate policies we want to see included in the provincial budget and in future government programs. We want this province to be prepared for the food challenge that lies ahead of us. That means action now to provide long-term, stable financing for farmers and measures to bolster the conditions under which production can expand. We need an agricultural strategy for this province and a far greater commitment to the agricultural industry than this province has given over the last several years.

I see my time is expiring. In closing, I would like to say there is plenty of fertile ground in this country and it is time this government scattered the seeds most beneficial to the economy of this province and to the real needs of its people over that fertile ground. Returning to the parable to which I alluded at the beginning of my speech, I would like to remind the government of the day of the words that were used at the end of that parable, "If you have ears, listen."

I have touched on only some of the concerns we in the Liberal Party share regarding this government's legislative agenda for this session. My colleagues and I have offered alternative programs in areas where we feel this government has failed and we have amended the throne speech accordingly. We feel our amendment is certainly supportable by members on all sides



and we urge this august assembly to give the Liberal amendment serious consideration.

Unfortunately, the New Democratic Party has not been able to differentiate between provincial responsibilities and those of the federal government, as reflected in its amendments to the throne speech, so we in the Liberal Party will find it very difficult to support such utter confusion.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to make a few remarks about the throne speech and to urge all members of this assembly to vote for the Liberal amendment. Such alternatives, if incorporated by this government, will go a long way towards getting this province on the move once again.

**The Acting Speaker:** Does any other member wish to participate in the debate? The member for Brampton, the Premier.

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Where were all of your members during Jack's speech?

**Mr. Nixon:** I should not use that phrase.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** What do you mean? Certainly we are thin over here.

5 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the member for Scarborough West (Mr. R. F. Johnston) for not being here during his speech. I was, I hope, productively involved. I did get a few notes and I heard a few things. I understand he started out with some biblical references. The member summing up for the Liberal Party was dealing in parables. I would quote another scripture: "The first shall be last, and the last shall be first." We are last in this debate; so we will be first in other areas.

**Mr. Cooke:** Where are all your troops?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I have news about them. They are all around and none of them are reluctant to tell people in their home constituencies they are still Progressive Conservatives. I understand the member's constituency literature is neglecting the fact that the member theoretically belongs to the New Democratic Party.

Interjections

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I have some relatives in Windsor; so I know what the member is doing. I get verbal reports. They said to me, "Did something happen to the printing presses in the office of the New Democratic Party?"

I am sure the logo will be back on the member's next newsletter. Why does the member do those things? It confuses the constituents. Some of them thought the member was perhaps

going to become a Liberal. I said, "No, he has a greater respect for himself than that." Then they said, "Maybe he is not going to run again." Maybe that is the case; I do not know.

I just want the member to know that everything he does comes to the attention of the Premier. I keep an eye on all parts of Ontario. I am interested in every constituency. When did the member start leaving it off?

**Mr. Martel:** Tell us about the member for Sudbury (Mr. Gordon) running without a PC logo last time.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I do not know. Whatever he did he was eminently successful. His success last time should strike terror in the members' hearts the next time. It starts in Sudbury and it just sort of spreads out—that goodwill, that enthusiasm. Is that not right, Brother Gordon? Is that not correct?

**Mr. Martel:** I am frightened. Tell us about it.

**Mr. Foulds:** We are not going to heckle. We are going to let the Premier speak.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Since when does the honourable member who just interjected worry about substance?

**Mr. Grande:** We worry about the Premier's substance.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I am interested in what the member describes as substance because I read what he says. The member and I will have to debate some time in another place what he means by "substance."

**Mr. Nixon:** Get to the point.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Oh, I will get to some of it. I want to get around to the nonprovocative remarks by the member for—I will get these—Huron-Middlesex (Mr. Riddell) on one or two issues. I will get it right. Not only will I get it right—

**Mr. Nixon:** Oh, no, you will not.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Oh, yes, I will. I never get your seat right; I confess that.

**Mr. Nixon:** The Premier might as well forget the names of those seats because they are changing.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I have news for the member. Do not take anything for granted, I would say to him.

At the outset, Mr. Speaker, I would compliment you for the very excellent and judicious way you handle the affairs of this totally disciplined Legislature. I wish to express to you, on behalf of our caucus, our respect and feelings as to how well you manage the affairs of this House. I know the members opposite feel exactly



the same way, but sometimes they are more reluctant to express that point of view.

It is traditional in speeches from the throne to refer to our own constituencies; so the bulk of my remarks will relate to those things that I, as the local member for Brampton, would like to see the government accomplish. I will refer to that constituency only another half dozen times during the course of my remarks.

**Mr. Nixon:** I see there is a new strip joint opening there.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I can only say to the member for Brant-Haldimand-Norfolk, or wherever he is from, I am always intrigued—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Brant-Oxford-Norfolk.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Brant-Oxford-Norfolk. He seems to have such a fetish about those cultural developments in the city of Brampton. Whether that says something about—

**Mr. Nixon:** It is the sin capital of the world.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** What is lacking in St. George? What is wrong with that community?

**Mr. Nixon:** It is right up the street from the Premier. Is that where he goes for lunch?

**Mr. Martel:** Is the Premier the drawing card?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** No, as a matter of fact, it is on Queen Street. I am on Main Street. That is the difference between me and John Turner. I am from Main Street like Chrétien.

**Mr. Nixon:** Hear, hear.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I knew you would say that. I will get around to my observations on that during the course of my remarks.

**Mr. Martel:** Is the Premier the drawing card for those things?

**Mr. Foulds:** The imagination boggles.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I probably would be better at it than the member would be. There is no question about it. I will not refer to that particular matter in my own home community. The local council is addressing it constructively and, I am sure, to a successful conclusion.

Going back to the remarks at the introduction of this debate, I would like to compliment the two honourable members who moved and seconded the excellent address by His Honour. It was carefully thought out and well delivered. I would like to express my appreciation to the new member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Mr. Villeneuve) and to the member for Sudbury for the excellent way they presented His Honour's throne speech to the House.

I listened to a good portion of the contribution by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Peterson) on the speech from the throne. I regret I listened to a lesser portion—in percentage of time, not in content—of that of the leader of the New Democratic Party. I am always careful in what I say. Some members opposite should exercise that same caution. I have checked them very carefully.

I was somewhat intrigued by the references of the Leader of the Opposition in his throne speech contribution to his perception of the economic situation in our province. I will not deal with the latter part of his remarks, which I did not hear and which became moderately personal and related to other situations.

As to his perception of and his ideas for the economic life of this province, I sense they were born of frustration, of a certain realistic assessment that as a political party in this province in terms of economic strategy or economic objectives the Liberal Party—if that is what it is today—has not defined its alternatives or its suggestions for the public of this province.

I do not say they have not had a policy with respect to youth employment. I remember discussions on the paper the Liberal Party—if that is its name—circulated some months ago. But as to coming to grips with some of the economic problems of today and of five and 10 years from now, I listened to some platitudes, a fair amount of generalities and a high degree of criticism of the activities of this government.

One of the things that afflicts me is that I have a memory. Some will say it is not great, but I happen to remember other speeches. I can remember the Leader of the Opposition, when he was finance critic for the Liberal Party, saying things that appear to be somewhat contradictory to what he says today. I can recall his urging upon the government many things in those days that he has altered today in his approach.

I listened to him sort of saying we had to take a totally new look at economic growth in the province. I do not quarrel with some of that, but I always have to caution people that it is great to talk about rationalization, about all the new ideas and about high technology. It is relevant, but I think we sometimes make a mistake in that we do not understand there are certain basic industries in this province, certain ongoing industries that need the help of government, the support of government and the encouragement of government on occasion.

I will not isolate things, but I can recall and I will take the auto sector as an example. I listened



to rhetoric from both opposition parties. I listened to rhetoric from the members from Windsor. I listened to a little from the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breagh), but he is more of a pragmatist and has a better sense of where the industry is going, so he said less.

Politicians never get into trouble until they open their mouths.

**Mr. Breagh:** You are demonstrating that this afternoon.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I do not open mine.

I just said the member said a shade less than some of the others who have a vital interest as members from constituencies that have the auto sector. I remember the doom and gloom being forecast by the Leader of the Opposition and some of the critics. I remember it from the New Democrats. I can hear them still saying to me: "The auto industry is going down the tubes. We are out of business and we are facing a calamity."

I just talked to somebody from Oshawa not more than one hour and 20 minutes ago roughly, who said General Motors has never had more people employed than at five o'clock this afternoon.

**5:10 p.m.**

**Mr. Breagh:** That is not true.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** That is what they say and their figures support it. I have been talking to people in the parts sector within the last seven or eight days. The parts industry has not been busier.

It is also true of Ford. Remember how they were saying that Chrysler was going down the tubes, Chrysler was done? Where is Chrysler today? They are thinking of expanding their activities at the van plant those members so enthusiastically opposed. Remember the opposition to what we were doing at the van plant, how they said it should not happen, it would not work? The fact is they are back-ordered for six months at this moment in history, and we are delighted. I do not see them telling their constituents just how farsighted we were when we sat down with Chrysler to sort out some of their economic problems. They give us no credit for that. We are not seeking it, but the people understand it.

**Mr. Cooke:** Your recollection of history is quite different.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Listen, my recollection of history is fairly good. I can recall when we were discussing the involvement of this government—which we never had to produce, incidentally—and how the members opposite said it would

never work. They were so negative about the future of Chrysler we might as well have had a funeral service right here in the Legislative Assembly. It shows how wrong they were and how wrong they continue to be. That is why they changed the name on the letterhead, I am sure.

**Mr. Martel:** Oh, you did it.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** No, I just said we did it without giving them anything. Does the member want me to tell him what we did for them. Does he want me to relive a little history for him? What did we do for Chrysler? We were very involved in putting the deal together.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** We did it in my office. It was signed in my office.

**Mr. Rae:** Oh, yeah, yeah.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I have news for him. I recall a small-town lawyer from Brampton talking to the Secretary of Commerce in Washington. We got to be on a first-name basis, never having met one another. He said: "Mr. Premier," and it became Bill after 30 seconds on the phone, "it is important to this arrangement that Ontario participate because Michigan is participating. Without that, we doubt whether or not the Congress will approve and the administration can move ahead with it."

My minister sat down with him, and they did. They guaranteed them if called upon to produce—I think it was \$20 million in terms of \$10 million and \$10 million.

**Mr. Sweeney:** Where is it?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** We did not have to do it, but the fact is that Ontario's involvement made the deal work. Not only did it work, it has been successful. It has been so successful—

**Mr. Nixon:** Both ways.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** You said it was all smoke and mirrors. You knew far more about the academic world than you do about business and industry, I say respectfully.

**Mr. Nixon:** No, I am right on.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Breagh:** Throw that in.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Throw what in?

**Mr. Breagh:** The Lada speech.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I am not going to talk about the Lada. If he wants to go out and buy a Lada, go out and buy a Lada; be my guest. I can see the headlines in Oshawa now, "Local Member Buys Lada." I have a dollar here that says he does not do it.



I listened carefully to the Leader of the Opposition as he was so critical and so negative about our economic wellbeing. I see the member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. Newman) sitting quietly over there as he usually does. He knows what great things have been happening in Windsor. He gets down to the van plant. He takes some credit for what has been done.

**Mr. Nixon:** Because the Liberals put some money in it.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Certainly. The Liberals have put money in a lot of places. In fact, John Roberts has put money in every constituency where he thinks he is going to get some delegates by the looks of it. The member is not supporting him anyway, so that should not upset him. Why can he not get more of his colleagues to help him in this crusade?

**Mr. Nixon:** It is a matter of time.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It is a matter of time. I am looking for some hard news for the press. The former leader of the Liberal Party says it is only a matter of time before three quarters of the Liberal caucus in Ontario agree with him to support Mr. Chrétien—except his leader has said very recently, as of a day ago, he does not want to carry the can for any of them. Does the member understand what he said? He said, “I do not want to carry the can for any of them.” That was after saying to the Kitchener-Waterloo Record he was a Turner man. I know he changes his position as often as the moon has phases, but I—

**Mr. Nixon:** I assure you he is not.

**Mr. Sweeney:** I think the Premier had better re-read that quote.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** All right, I will re-read it. I quite honestly do not care whom he supports. That will come as a great shock to members. I was intrigued by the fact that he does not want to carry the can for any of them. That is certainly party loyalty and enthusiasm to the nth degree.

Interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Joe Clark lost. Whoever it is, the Liberals will be going through a frustrating exercise in June. It will be a 65-day or 45-day period.

Interjections.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** What did he call Trudeau? The albatross?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Do not interrupt me. I will get around to the millstone before we are finished.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** As head of this government, I do not for a moment minimize the difficulties that continue in the economy of this province, but those concerns do not relate so much to our own capacity within the province to perform and be productive. I will give members an example. Although it may not be true of every plant, in the auto sector our plants are every bit as productive as they are in the United States. When I read statements suggesting we are less productive than our American neighbours in that sector, that is not true. It is not true in steel either.

What I am concerned about is the ability of this country to compete on an international basis. I read a lot about freer trade or free trade. I hear some discussions emanating from the United States and elsewhere saying we may be a shade parochial in this province. I can only remind members there are various factors in international trade. I do not purport to be an expert, but I know what the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade provides. I know what the formal statements require of us as Ontarians or Canadians. The one thing that has not emerged in a lot of these discussions is the nontariff barriers or government procurement policies existing in some countries of the world.

I am concerned, as well, about the growing feeling within Congress, if not the US administration, about protectionism. I was in Washington very briefly not too many weeks ago and met with members of both the administration and Congress. It is fair to state the American administration is not protectionist in its attitude.

When talking to members of Congress, I recall going in to see Senator Heinz, who by his very name has had a modest interest, or his family has, in the economic life of this province. He made speeches on a number of occasions in support of greater economic freedom. Yet he showed me a picture in his office of the three rivers that merge in Pittsburgh and said, “This is my constituency.” Senator Heinz has introduced, or was in the process of introducing, legislation related to the steel industry.

I talked to somebody from one of the southern states who is introducing a bill that would restrict certain downstream activities in the resource sector. He said: “We think Canadians are great. My bill does not relate to Canada.” I said, “Senator, how can you introduce a bill in Congress that excludes Canada from whatever that legislation encompasses?” He said, “We cannot, but I want you to know it is not directed at Canada.”



I talked to the administration about steel and copper. There is no question there is a concern about the importation of copper. I relate this to those from the mining resource communities of this province. There is a concern about copper, not from Canada but from Chile. I was told: "This is not directed at Canada, but we have to do something about the other. We are caught up in that."

I kept reminding some of the administration people who talked about greater access to markets that their Surface Transportation Assistance Act, for example, had a direct inhibiting factor in our economic wellbeing in this province. The buy-American program, in the attitude of some members of Congress, is a concern of our economic wellbeing.

**5:20 p.m.**

I think it is fair to state that very few Ontarians really have an awareness of how dependent we are as a province—and this affects the rest of the country—on our ability to export. We are more dependent per capita on our ability to export than Japan is. Everybody looks at Japan and its great success in the export field, and it has had tremendous success; but you have to look at the percentage they export in relation to their domestic market to understand that on a per capita or percentage basis, we as Ontarians are more dependent on our capacity to export than Japan is as a nation.

This is not a sobering fact; it is a fact of life that confronts the private sector and governments and has a tremendous impact in terms of its potential on all of us. That is why this government has been directing a great deal of its efforts—and the House will hear more about this from the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller)—to our export potential and export possibilities.

I do not say this in any critical sense, but part of the problem has always been the reluctance of Canadian businessmen to venture into offshore opportunities. I am no expert. I have travelled somewhat very modestly, but I have visited some of these potential markets and I know what they say to me. They say: "Mr. Premier, why does your business community not come here more often? Why do they not come more than once?"

**Mr. Nixon:** Is that Adrienne?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Actually, we have not had quite that same problem; there are other problems there.

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I know the member wants to go to the places in Brampton and he wants to visit Adrienne. Where is his mind functioning today?

**Mr. Nixon:** Very healthy; that is where it is.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It just proves he is healthy. I know.

One objective of this government, one objective of the business sector in this province, has to be related to a desire to devote greater efforts and initiatives to our export potential. At the same time, despite the potential that exists in the Far East and in western Europe, we should never lose sight of the fact that no matter how much success we have, our prime customer is today, will be tomorrow and will be, I predict, five, 10, 20 years from now, the United States.

I think it is fundamental for this country to maintain an excellent relationship with the United States. Obviously we are going to differ with them on issues, we are going to differ with them on environmental matters; but anyone who suggests that any sort of controversial relationship with our neighbour would help us in economic terms is making a fundamental error.

As I say, the government is not satisfied with the economic performance of this province, but we do feel we have made some progress. With respect to actual numbers of people employed in April 1984, we are well beyond where we were in April 1983.

I do not expect the members opposite to give government any credit. I do not expect them to acknowledge the fact that Ontario has led the recovery in Canada or that in the auto sector we have far surpassed the most optimistic expectations of a lot of people. I do not expect them to give us credit for anything.

However, I think the people of this province do understand that we have moved out of the recession. There are still problems. We have to continue to be concerned about inflation; we have to continue to work with labour and management to provide the co-operative sort of environment that gives us the competitive edge to compete in the international marketplace.

I have so many things I want to talk about. The member for Scarborough West gave by and large, as I sense, a relatively thoughtful presentation. I do not think the member, whose interests lie in a certain direction of which I am not critical, understands that we on this side of the House have the same sensitivity and the same concern.

I think if one looks at the record in this province and at what we have done for the elderly, our senior citizens, at what we have done



for the handicapped, at the progress we have made in housing in spite of what the member said, we can stand up in this province and say that, compared to any comparable jurisdiction in North America, we have demonstrated not as much but more sensitivity, more understanding and more encouragement for the people the member has been talking about; and I say that very objectively.

I do not say for a moment that it is totally equitable. I do not say for a moment that we have achieved perfection—

**Mr. Renwick:** We would agree on that.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I know the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) would agree we have not achieved perfection. But I would say to the senior statesman in that party, with great respect, that none of us has achieved perfection, either as parties, governments or individuals, except perhaps the member himself, but I think he is honest enough to acknowledge that he too has the odd imperfection. I cannot think of any, but he may have one or two. I have several. I am honest; I will admit them. I cannot think of them, but I have several.

I want the member for Scarborough West to understand something else. While we will acknowledge there is work yet to be done, and perhaps some rationalization—again, I do not purport to be an expert—I say to the member not to say to us that we are less sensitive than he is. He should not think the constituents of Scarborough West are any different from my constituents in Brampton or that he sees more of the disadvantaged than I may see. I live in my town; I have lived there for 54 years, eight months and whatever number of days. I know some of them have the same problems the member referred to. They also know that, as a government, we have made progress and are making a genuine effort to rectify those problems.

I should remind the member and his party of something else. I take some pride in what we have done in social services. I take some pride in what we have accomplished in education—and I will get around to the rhetoric from the member for Huron-Middlesex. I take some pride in what we have done in health. However, the only way we can maintain and improve these programs is through the economic growth of this province.

If one were to listen to the leader of the New Democratic Party and adopt his party's philosophy, one would be inhibiting the very programs the member for Scarborough West spent 45 minutes talking about today. That

happens to be a fact of life, and I hope the member is beginning to understand it. The member at the far end of the member's row is beginning to understand it; he is almost becoming a pragmatist in terms of his communication to his constituency.

I say to the member for Scarborough West not to say to me that he is more sensitive than I am. He may be smarter, he may be many things, but he should not suggest to the world that he represents a higher degree of sensitivity. He may think we have not done enough, and I will never argue that. He may think we can do more, and I will never argue that either. But he should not suggest to us that we do not care as much as he does, because we do.

The member for Huron-Middlesex touched upon a number of issues. I have always tried to restrain myself from commenting on educational matters. I made that determination in March 1971. I guess I have trespassed on occasion, but I have tried to refrain from public comment on that because it is a subject that is still very near and dear to my heart. However, I have had such excellent ministers that there has been no need for me to comment.

I do not know who researched the member's speech. He may have done his own research on the agricultural part of his speech, but he certainly does not want to take credit for what he read about education. I know it is great fun to say we had certain studies in 1964 and 1966 and certain things happened. I have lived with that; I will continue to live with that. I take some pride in it. The member may like to be critical of it; he may like to knock it. I say to him, be my guest. I have been criticized by the member's intellectual equals in that field and I live with it.

However, I suggest the researcher who made those constructive observations about the former Minister of Education ought to go back and see what the Liberal Party was saying on education at the same time. The member should go back and read what Tim Reid, as the Liberal Education critic, representing the then Liberal Party of Ontario, said it would do in the field of education. If the member does not come away trembling and saying to himself, "Thank heavens there was a Minister of Education with a certain stability, a certain sense of conservatism, a certain desire to proceed with caution," then either he or his researchers do not read the same material I do.

**5:30 p.m.**

I was here and I heard it. I listened to it. That is when Tim Reid used to say: "The Liberal Party is



for reform. We want to reform the educational system." Even the former leader of the Liberal Party was for reform once. He wanted to have county school boards, he wanted to have regional governments—all those great things which the reactionary Liberal Party of today has decided are no longer part of reform. I am glad the Leader of the Opposition is here, because I will have a few words of advice for him later in my remarks.

I remind the member that when it comes to grade 13, I remember the debate. I remember the discussion. The decision to eliminate the externally set, externally marked grade 13 examinations was reached by consensus of the total educational community for very valid reasons, both administratively and educationally. His party was totally in support of it at the time. I recall so vividly because we knew what was going on.

I have to tell the member for St. Catharines (Mr. Bradley), who is quoted in his—oh, this is a dilly; it is a dandy. I do not know whether I can even find it. He was giving lectures and saying what I would say today and how my remarks would be partisan and how we would be condescending, unlike the opposition critics. I have to tell the member, this is a legislature. It will come as a shock to him that on occasion it gets partisan, but if he wants to know what being partisan is like, let him just speak to his own leader. I say to the member for St. Catharines not to come in here and say that I am partisan. We are so far behind the members opposite when it comes to partisan politics, we are rank amateurs.

**Mr. Sweeney:** It is the only thing the Conservative Party is better at.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Is it? Does the member know something—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Let him just ask the member who is now his party's expert in industry—no, that is his shadow position; I like that terminology, although I never understood what it meant—would he ask him whether the bulk of the academic community, when he was one of the leaders of that academic community, supported the elimination of the grade 13 examinations? The member knows it, I know it, and will he tell that to the member for Huron-Middlesex?

Did the member have his teaching certificate then?

**Mr. Riddell:** Yes, I did.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** He did. Then he should know that the group he belonged to then—maybe

still, too—the Ontario Teachers' Federation, was ultimately in support of that initiative. When the member comes in here with the rhetoric about the elimination of grade 13 and what we are not doing within the educational system, he should go back and see the positions of his party and his spokesmen at the time some of these changes were introduced. He will find, in point after point and situation after situation, that the then reform party of Ontario said to the Minister of Education, "You are not going far enough, you are not spending enough and you should be doing more of the Hall-Dennis report."

That happens to be factually correct. Let the member get his researchers to go back and he will come in and perhaps make a different kind of speech.

I am not going to deal with education at great length.

**Mr. Sweeney:** That is not what we were saying in 1976, eight years ago.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Does the member know something about education?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I could read his speech. I will read the member's speech. I will read some of my own speeches. What we are saying today was said, perhaps with even better rhetoric, in the 1960s, some of it was said in the 1950s, some of it was said in the 1970s and, I will make a prediction, the Education critic for the Liberal Party, the shadow cabinet Education minister in 1989, will be saying some of the same things that were said in the 1960s.

**Mr. Bradley:** We will be in power by then.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Oh, no. I am just telling the member where he is going to be.

Even the member for York South was nasty to me. He certainly was. He asked what I was doing going to the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education to deliver a lecture in the Bob Jackson series. He asked what books I had written. He has not read my publications, because there are not any.

I refer him to my lecture at York University, which was printed. It did not sell many copies—it probably did not sell any—but it was an excellent lecture. He should read it. It is really on the concept of the involvement of the university with the community. It is as relevant today as when I delivered it some years ago.

**Mr. Renwick:** Who wrote it for the Premier?

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It will come as a great shock to the member that the main thoughts behind it



were my own. But I am going up to the institute to deliver that lecture.

It will come as a great shock to the members opposite that I have been invited to some internationally reputable institutions to talk about education. I have declined because I do not pretend to be an expert, but I have news for the member for York South: neither is he.

I have a great quote here from 1964 in the *Varsity*. I will get back to that a little later.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Have you? I would love to hear that.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Yes. I will get to it.

**Mr. Martel:** You had better get there soon. You only have six minutes.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Seriously, we only have six minutes. I know the member for St. Catharines. He is so bankrupt of ideas he wants to come back to the jet. We sold the jet.

**Mr. Bradley:** I applaud you for it.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** I know. He has told all his constituents he is solely responsible. I am delighted to hear it. I understand. Everywhere I go in Ontario they say to me: "What is the name of the member for St. Catharines? Is he the one in that Kitchener-Waterloo Record newspaper article, or is he the one who talked about the jet?" I have difficulty in saying whether he is one of the three mousquetaires or whatever way his leader described him, or whether his real interest was the jet. I could not really sort it out.

**Mr. Bradley:** It is the jet.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** Has the member taken that up with his leader yet? Is he really one of the three hit men of the Liberal Party? I do not believe it.

I wanted to get on to the question of pension funds etc., but I will leave that to the Treasurer because he will enlighten the Leader of the Opposition with respect to how we plan to repay, and have started repaying, some of those pension funds.

I want to go to one other matter mentioned by the member for Huron-Middlesex—I have not checked the record, but perhaps I should—where he suggested there is something ulterior about the Election Act before the House. I do not quite understand that. My recollection, and I am going solely by recollection, is that after the 1975 election, I think, a number of people spoke personally and for political parties—I know Stephen Lewis was one of them—about the length and duration of the election period, saying a reduction would make far greater sense in terms of advertising and so much of the activity. We are

talking about a three- or four-week period in any event.

I may be wrong in this, but in the United Kingdom it is three weeks.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** It is 22 days.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It is 22 days. They have a permanent voters' list, so that makes a difference. If the members opposite want to oppose the reduction of the writ period, fine and dandy, but would they please go back and see what some of their own party members said when they were perhaps a little more objective and had done a shade more homework. They should not lay it on us that we are trying to reduce the election period for the sake of some party motive on our part. That is totally wrong. It is silly. I hate to use that terminology, but it is silly.

One of the most difficult tasks I have in winding this up is that I have such a plethora of material—if that is the correct phrase—that I can only get to parts of it. I have so much here I wanted to put on the record for the advice of the members opposite.

The toughest responsibility I have—I felt tremendously encouraged after this weekend's press; I might have more success. I have tried in I cannot think how many throne speech debates to persuade the members opposite to change their minds and vote in support of the government.

On Friday when somebody said, "I guess you will wind up the throne debate," I said to myself, "I guess I will; there is no way I will convince the Leader of the Opposition." Then I read what he said on the weekend. I do not know where these rumours come from, but according to the headlines he is now speculating that I will call a snap election and saying that it would be irresponsible, would waste money, would be cynical, would be manipulative and would be totally wrong.

If he believes that, and that is what he is saying to the public of this province, then to prove his bona fides and his integrity he should vote with the government in support of the throne speech as a consistent way of doing it. Come on, I say to him. Join us.

**5:40 p.m.**

I want to leave him with one final quotation, because he has been saying some very kind things about the Premier of this province on CITY-TV and some other stations. My wife almost took exception. I do not take exception, because I will not say anything unkind about him. I will use his own words and try to convince him. On February 9, 1982, in the *Toronto Star*, he put the good Lord as leader of the New



Democratic Party and a donkey as leader of ours, and we are still going to have more support. He could be quite right on both counts.

**Mr. Speaker:** On Thursday, March 22, Mr. Gordon moved, seconded by Mr. Villeneuve, that an humble address be presented to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To the Honourable John Black Aird, an officer of the Order of Canada, one of Her Majesty's counsel learned in the law, Bachelor of Arts, Doctor of Laws, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the province of Ontario, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has addressed to us.

On Monday, March 26, Mr. Peterson moved, seconded by Mr. Conway, that the motion for an address in reply to the speech from the throne be amended by adding the following words:

"This House, however, regrets that the speech from the throne fails to recognize and adequately respond to the fundamental changes in Ontario society and the problems currently facing it, and condemns the government for the following:

"A total lack of government initiative and leadership and policy necessary to vigorously attack the concerns of youth unemployment in Ontario;

"Continuing a dismal, decade-long policy of neglect in the areas of education and of skills training as a means of providing jobs for today and tomorrow;

"Permitting the erosion of universal access to quality health care, post-secondary education and public housing as a result of ongoing provincial underfunding of these systems;

"Failing to enact legislation guaranteeing equal pay for work of equal value, and failing to provide an overall day care strategy for Ontario;

"Responding too slowly to the urgent needs of Ontario's pensioners and for the lack of appropriate care in administering the pension funds of this province;

"Pursuing a shameful policy of ignoring the continuing crisis in the agricultural community, preferring to study the problem rather than take any direct initiative;

"Failing to make Ontario Hydro adequately accountable for its actions and decisions;

"Ignoring on a routine and regular basis its own rules to safeguard the administration of public funds;

"Allowing the ongoing deterioration in the capital infrastructure of this province, including roads;

"Failing to adequately protect the public interest in monitoring the affairs of provincially regulated companies and not ensuring adequate and equitable compensation for people affected as a result of the government's regulatory failures;

"The continuing neglect of the needs of northern Ontario, particularly the failure to provide adequate education and health care services and to safeguard adequately our natural resources, in particular, our forests;

"Ignoring the legitimate aspirations of Ontario's multicultural communities to participate in the decision-making process.

"Therefore, this House declares its total lack of confidence in this government."

On Tuesday, March 27, Mr. Rae moved, seconded by Mr. Martel, that the amendment to the motion be amended by adding immediately before the last line:

"And further condemns the government for:

"Following the example of the Liberal government in Ottawa in cutting back on funding for social housing, education and health care programs;

"The inadequacy of its efforts in affirmative action and, in particular, its failure to require affirmative action programs for all employers of 20 or more people;

"Continuing to ignore the need for strong legislation on plant closures requiring full disclosure and public justification of closure decisions and protecting fully all workers affected;

"The continued failure of the government to provide for early retirement for older workers;

"Its failure to begin the major reform of the social security system that is needed to cope with the devastating economic changes taking place in the province, and in particular its failure to advocate a major expansion of the public pension system in Ontario and in Canada, including the Canada pension plan;

"Its total neglect of the problem of poverty and of the need for tax reform, causing extreme hardship for growing numbers of families and individuals;

"The lack of any commitment on the part of the government to community economic development and to generating new forms of social capital for investment in job creation;

"Producing a plan for the Niagara Escarpment which completely retreats from the principle of protecting this unique resource in areas like the Beaver Valley;



"Failing to follow the example of other provinces in introducing a red meat stabilization program;

"Its failure to eliminate extra billing by doctors;

"Its failure to shift resources to a not-for-profit model in the provision of nursing home care and its refusal to require any genuine accountability on the part of private nursing home operators for either the quality of care or the expenditure of public funds;

"Its refusal to provide for lifetime indexed pensions for nonoccupational losses such as pain and suffering resulting from compensable injuries under workers' compensation."

**Hon. Mr. Ashe:** Would you read that again?

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

The first question to be decided is the amendment to the amendment to the motion.

**5:56 p.m.**

The House divided on Mr. Rae's amendment to the amendment, which was negatived on the following vote:

#### Ayes

Allen, Breaugh, Bryden, Cassidy, Charlton, Cooke, Di Santo, Foulds, Grande, Johnston, R. F., Laughren, Lupusella, Mackenzie, Martel, McClellan, Philip, Rae, Renwick, Samis, Stokes, Swart, Wildman.

#### Nays

Andrewes, Ashe, Baetz, Barlow, Bennett, Bernier, Boudria, Bradley, Breithaupt, Conway, Copps, Cousens, Cunningham, Cureatz, Davis, Dean, Drea, Eakins, Eaton, Edighoffer, Elgie, Elston, Fish, Gillies, Gordon, Gregory, Grossman, Haggerty, Harris, Henderson, Hennessy, Hodgson, Johnson, J. M.;

Kells, Kennedy, Kerr, Kerrio, Kolyn, Lane, Leluk, MacQuarrie, Mancini, McCaffrey, McCague, McEwen, McGuigan, McKessock, McLean, McMurtry, McNeil, Miller, F. S., Miller, G. I., Mitchell, Newman, Nixon, Norton, O'Neil, Peterson, Piché, Pollock, Pope, Ramsay, Reed, J. A., Reid, T. P., Riddell, Robinson, Rotenberg, Runciman, Ruprecht, Ruston;

Sargent, Scrivener, Sheppard, Shymko, Snow, Spensieri, Stephenson, B. M., Sterling, Stevenson, K. R., Sweeney, Taylor, G. W., Taylor, J. A., Timbrell, Treleaven, Van Horne, Villeneuve, Walker, Watson, Welch, Wells, Williams, Wiseman, Worton, Wrye, Yakabuski.

Ayes 22; nays 95.

The House divided on Mr. Peterson's amendment, which was negatived on the following vote:

#### Ayes

Allen, Boudria, Bradley, Breaugh, Breithaupt, Bryden, Cassidy, Charlton, Conway, Cooke, Copps, Cunningham, Di Santo;

Eakins, Edighoffer, Elston, Foulds, Grande, Haggerty, Johnston, R. F., Kerrio, Laughren, Lupusella, Mackenzie, Mancini, Martel, McClellan, McEwen, McGuigan, McKessock, Miller, G. I., Mr. Sweeney;

Newman, Nixon, O'Neil, Peterson, Philip, Rae, Reed, J. A., Reid, T. P., Renwick, Riddell, Ruprecht, Ruston, Samis, Sargent, Spensieri, Stokes, Swart, Van Horne, Wildman, Worton, Wrye.

#### Nays

Andrewes, Ashe, Baetz, Barlow, Bennett, Bernier, Cousens, Cureatz, Davis, Dean, Drea, Eaton, Elgie, Fish, Gillies, Gordon, Gregory, Grossman, Harris, Henderson, Hennessy, Hodgson, Johnson J. M.;

Kells, Kennedy, Kerr, Kolyn, Lane, Leluk, MacQuarrie, McCaffrey, McCague, McLean, McMurtry, McNeil, Miller, F. S., Mitchell, Norton, Piché, Pollock, Pope, Ramsay, Robinson.

Rotenberg, Runciman, Scrivener, Sheppard, Shymko, Snow, Stephenson, B. M., Sterling, Stevenson, K. R., Taylor, G. W., Taylor, J. A., Timbrell, Treleaven, Villeneuve, Walker, Watson, Welch, Wells, Williams, Wiseman, Yakabuski.

Ayes 53; nays 64.

The House divided on Mr. Gordon's main motion, which was agreed to on the same vote reversed.

Resolved: That an humble address be presented to the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To the Honourable John Black Aird, an officer of the Order of Canada, one of Her Majesty's counsel learned in the law, bachelor of arts, doctor of laws, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the province of Ontario, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has addressed to us.

The House adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

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No. 17

# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Tuesday, April 10, 1984

Afternoon Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

**Tuesday, April 10, 1984**

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## MEMBERS' PRIVILEGES

**Mr. Speaker:** I would like to make a statement and share with all members some thoughts I have had with regard to the situation that took place yesterday.

I have been giving further thought to the difficulty that arose last week with respect to the statement of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) concerning which the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid) was given unanimous consent to make a statement last week and again yesterday.

The suggestion was made that this matter should be referred to the procedural affairs committee so that some provision might be made for a member to have an opportunity to reply under similar circumstances. While I was inclined to agree with that suggestion, on further thought and study of the standing orders I have come to the conclusion that the matter is amply covered by the standing orders as they exist.

Difficulty arose from allegations made in his ministerial statement by the Minister of Labour concerning the member for Rainy River. I draw the attention of the House to standing order 26(a), which says, "Statements may be made by ministers relating to government policy, ministry action and other similar matters of which the House should be informed." This sets out very clearly the restrictions on such statements and, I suggest, precludes any allegation against any other member.

The question of a member having a right of reply would then not arise. The statement by the minister, even if answering a previously asked question as provided by standing order 27(a), should confine itself strictly to a statement of the facts and should not make allegations concerning another member. Any disagreements between members should be dealt with in debate and not by way of a minister's statement.

## ACADEMY AWARD

**Mr. Sheppard:** Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to make a brief announcement, and I

hope all members of the Legislature will share in my joy for the great achievement of Janice Platt.

Miss Platt comes from Brighton township, near Morganston, in the great riding of Northumberland. She is the daughter of Les and Wynn Platt, and I am proud to say this young lady has won an Oscar for the best live-action short for Boys and Girls, a segment of Sons and Daughters.

## NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order or as an announcement: I would like to join with the member for Sarnia, the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt), in congratulating the city of Sarnia, which recently unanimously declared itself a nuclear weapons free zone.

As a result of that, I have moved a motion today in the House that, as this movement develops across the province, we in this House will all join together to support the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign to make Canada a nuclear weapons free zone.

## BIRTH OF MEMBER'S GRANDCHILD

**Mr. Bradley:** Speaking of important announcements, Mr. Speaker, this is an extremely proud and important day for the House leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, the member for Brant-Oxford-Norfolk (Mr. Nixon). He has reached a milestone in his life—or is it a millstone?—because at long last, at the age of 44, he has become a grandfather.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Well done, Bob.

**Mr. Nixon:** It was easy.

**Mr. Bradley:** I should explain it was a boy. He did want to say that. They knew that even before the child was born. I am not supposed to tell more, other than to offer congratulations.

**Mr. Nixon:** More important, it is a Liberal.

**Mr. Speaker:** And with nary a grey hair.

## STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY

### NIAGARA RIVER POLLUTION

**Hon. Mr. Brandt:** Mr. Speaker, yesterday legal representatives for my ministry filed documents with Judge John T. Curtin of the Federal Court of western New York in opposition to the proposed agreement on the cleanup of the



Occidental Chemical Corp. S area site in Niagara Falls.

Details of this agreement between the chemical company and the US Environmental Protection Agency were released in mid-January, about a month before Ontario won intervener status in the court proceedings. I announced at the time that my staff would review the various proposals in the court settlement and would make our views known to Judge Curtin. That review is now complete. We are definitely not satisfied that the proposed cleanup measures are adequate and we are expressing that dissatisfaction in the strongest possible terms to Judge Curtin.

The court has scheduled a hearing starting on April 30 to allow all parties involved to state their views before any final decision is made on ratification of the proposed settlement. I can assure members Ontario's concerns will be expressed in detail in the courtroom.

The basis of the settlement is a plan to contain the wastes in the S area site. We do not accept that containment for several decades, possibly even hundreds of years, provides adequate protection for the very important Niagara River. We shall, therefore, request physical removal of the S area contaminants. In a case such as this, where a drinking water source for so many people may be at risk, a permanent solution is needed. We cannot simply pass our problem on to the next generation.

Unfortunately, the proposed agreement does not provide adequate remedies for, or protection against, the effects of the contaminants migrating offsite. For the area between the S area site and the Niagara River, we shall insist on a remedial program being developed quickly to deal with the contaminants that are known to have left the site.

Contaminants from the waste site are also believed to be in the bedrock under the Niagara River. Occidental Chemical Corp. should, therefore, be required to study the river bottom to identify areas that could permit the contaminants in the bedrock to rise and enter the river. The company should also carry out contaminant surveys in the bedrock on the Ontario side of the river to identify any contaminant migration that may have reached Canadian territory.

**2:10 p.m.**

There must be liability imposed on the company now for any offsite effects of the contaminants. It is also imperative that strict provisions be imposed requiring remedial treatment of contaminants where any hazard to health or the environment is identified. As is evidenced by our actions yesterday, Ontario is committed to

protecting the Great Lakes from chemical contamination from the S area. Our commitment also extends to the other Niagara River waste sites and, indeed, to any other identifiable source of toxic contaminants.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

### ARTICLE IN NEWSPAPER

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of privilege. I refer to the Cobourg Daily Star of April 3 of this year. In an article referring to a speech made by the member for York Centre (Mr. Cousens), it says the following. "He added that though he's part of the government party, he doesn't consider himself part of the government. 'It's far more important to be tied into the free enterprise community than the government community,' he said. 'We want to fly with the eagles. We do not want to sit with the turkeys.'"

I rise in my place to defend the two or three members of the cabinet to whom that title is not applicable.

**Mr. McClellan:** Which turkeys did he mean?

**Mr. Sweeney:** They haven't decided which ones though.

**Mr. Speaker:** Oral questions, the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Smile, Bill. It is just a little joke.

**Mr. McClellan:** You can dish it out but you can't take it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Martel:** It was fun yesterday.

**Hon. Mr. Davis:** It is already unbearable, the self-righteousness of the NDP.

**Mr. Rae:** Where is Don Cousens?

**Mr. Eakins:** Gobble, gobble, gobble. Let's talk turkey.

**Mr. Speaker:** We have lost almost a minute, thank you.

[Later]

**Mr. Cousens:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: I take offence that any honourable member would think this is a bird sanctuary. There are blue jay lovers and there are cardinal lovers, but on this side of the House I know there are many great people and we are all flying to the highest and the very best. There are no turkeys on this side. We have not been plucked.

**Mr. Rae:** I should say that turkeys with two right wings always fly around in circles.

### HYDRO RATES

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question of the Minister of Energy with respect to today's



announcement by Ontario Hydro to seek a 9.1 per cent rate increase. The minister will be aware that the rate increase allowed last year was 7.8 per cent, above inflation, and this year it was 8.4 per cent. Again, a request is put in for Hydro rate increases greater than inflation. It is substantially greater than any projected inflation rate at the present time.

How can the minister, with any kind of a conscience, representing a government that stood for wage guidelines in this province to keep incomes low, pass that recommendation on to the Ontario Energy Board? Surely he is not keeping the promise he made to keep Hydro rates in line with inflation this decade.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I am surprised the Leader of the Opposition had time to pay attention to such pressing matters this morning. I thought he was busy and preoccupied with other issues. I want to tell him the other contender for that spot sends his regards and hopes the leader's caucus will be as supportive of him.

The Ontario Hydro board will be submitting a request to me, which I will submit to the Ontario Energy Board for review, for a rate increase of 9.1 per cent in 1985. As the member is aware, the Ontario Energy Board will hold a public review of that request and will report back to me. I would remind all members that built into this rate increase is an approximate one per cent for the cost of retubing at Pickering, our cost for a number of units that will be coming into that rate base in 1984-85, and the usual costs for inflation increases that will necessarily have to be built into that base.

**Mr. Peterson:** The minister is aware this rate suggestion today will add at least \$50 to the average hydro bill of the average consumer in Ontario this year. The minister talked about a review of the rates by the energy board but is he aware that the Ontario Energy Board does not review one of the major components of that price increase, and that is the systems expansion?

Will the minister instruct the Ontario Energy Board to review the systems expansion, including all the capital expenditures that have been incurred in the past, many of which have yet to hit the rate structure and have yet to be incorporated in the rates?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** If we were to accept the most recent growth in demand projections by the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources in Ottawa, we would be encouraging Ontario Hydro to examine its systems expansion program, because at its present rate it would not

be adequate to meet electricity demand in the 1990s.

All the data and information the board requests during the rate hearings will be supplied by Ontario Hydro as it has been in the past, generally governed by rules of confidentiality. The matter of the systems expansion program was a matter of concern by board counsel, and it was not a matter of concern alluded to in the board's report.

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, the minister knows perfectly well that in dealing with Ontario Hydro the board is basically a eunuch when faced with the need to make certain decisions. First, it cannot consider Ontario Hydro's capital expansion plans. Second, anything the Ontario Energy Board says is simply advisory.

Perhaps the minister would like to note that in its last decision the board said, "The board considers the fight against inflation to be of such paramount importance that Hydro, in its own interest as well as Ontario's, ought to champion the taming of inflation."

If the minister is interested in taming inflation, will he please do two things? First, make the decisions of the energy board binding on Ontario Hydro. Second, give the energy board the power to deal with the questions of capital expansion and retubing, which are the reasons Hydro itself has given for the unacceptable increases. Will the minister at least do that?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, to answer the latter part of the leader of the third party's question, any questions and any detail required by the board in its study will be provided by Ontario Hydro. It has done so in the past and it always will.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: The Minister of Energy should correct the record because he knows very well that Hydro is under no compulsion—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The minister.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I have completed my answer.

**Mr. Peterson:** The minister is absolutely incorrect in the information he has given this House. In fact, he has specifically instructed the Ontario Energy Board not to consider systems expansion. I assume the minister will want to rise in his place to correct immediately the misinformation he has given this House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** Perhaps he will take the opportunity to correct the record. I am sure he does not want to deliberately mislead the



members of this House. I am sure he will want to take the occasion to assume responsibility for his own actions.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is that a question?

**Mr. Peterson:** If he would like to do that now, I will sit down and ask the supplementary in a moment.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** The instructions with respect to the Ontario Energy Board and the letter of transmittal have been very clear in the past that the board will not examine the systems expansion program. That does not preclude the board asking any details about systems expansion, and those details have been and will be provided by Ontario Hydro to the board for its consideration.

**Mr. Speaker:** New question, the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Peterson:** No, it is not a new question, Mr. Speaker; it is a supplementary to the minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** No.

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I clearly pointed out to you—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. With all respect, that was the final supplementary.

**Mr. Peterson:** You may want to change your mind again tomorrow, sir; I stood on a point of privilege.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. New question, please.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order: I do not know how we get the minister to correct his statement, but the way it has been left he is misleading the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. New question.

**Mr. Roy:** It should not be a new question. The member did not ask the supplementary.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, he did.

2:20 p.m.

#### CASE LOAD AT CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea), I would like to direct my question to the Provincial Secretary for Social Development.

I know the provincial secretary will be aware of the increasing demands being placed on children's aid societies across Ontario. I know he is also aware that many have experienced dramatic case load increases, and I would like to remind him of Sudbury, where the case load has gone from 725 families in 1980 to 950 families in 1983.

In Ottawa-Carleton, referrals increased by 20 per cent last year and in Toronto, because of public awareness campaigns endorsed by the Minister of Community and Social Services, the Children's Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto saw an increase in child abuse cases of almost 20 per cent. Other children's aid societies have followed the same pattern.

What supportive funding steps is the minister using to ensure that the children's aid societies can financially meet these increased demands?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member is aware, that is really a direct responsibility of the Minister of Community and Social Services, who is making provision through the distribution of the allocation. This will be made plain when the budget is presented.

**Mr. Wrye:** I really hope this minister has some responsibilities, because he claimed in his riding that he was providing leadership. I would like to know what leadership he is providing.

I would like to review the case of the Family and Children's Services of the Waterloo Region, which demonstrates the problem. The society experienced an increase of 48 per cent in the number of families it helped last year. This year, that number is expected to go up by another 14 per cent.

That society was underfunded by \$300,000 in 1982 and last year, after receiving five per cent in 1982, received only another five per cent. This was in spite of a child welfare review committee that recommended an increase of 16 or 17 per cent. The Ministry of Community and Social Services was represented on that committee. The administration of this agency expects a deficit of almost \$1 million this year. Other societies in the north, in Thunder Bay and in Sudbury, experience the same problems.

In view of the fact that child welfare and services to families is a priority of this province, according to the governing party, why does the provincial secretary not recommend to the minister responsible that the social services maintenance tax, which provided \$170 million in revenue last year and which will provide double that amount this year, be used to provide the funds needed by the societies? Why do we not use the social services maintenance tax to start helping the people who really need it?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** I am sure that question can be answered in more detail by the Minister of Community and Social Services. I would just say that if the member would look carefully at what has been done over the past years, he would see that the amount of funding committed by this



government to social programs in Ontario is second to none among the various jurisdictions.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, is the Provincial Secretary for Social Development not aware that many of the children's aid societies are having to reduce their staffs through attrition to meet the cutbacks in provincial government funding? Is he not aware that prevention programs in Ottawa, Toronto and other areas are being cut back and cut out because of lack of government funding from the province at the time of highest need?

Workers are saying that children are at risk in Ontario and that the Minister of Community and Social Services will not even meet with them to discuss their concerns. Is the provincial secretary not even aware of that? Does he not think it is part of his responsibility to make sure this minister takes more appropriate action to help the poor families of this province cope with their difficulties?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** Mr. Speaker, although it certainly is within the purview of the secretariat that I head, I can assure the honourable member and all members of this House that the Minister of Community and Social Services needs no prompting from me to be concerned about the needs of children and other people in this province.

**Mr. Wrye:** I am sure the minister is aware that one of the cornerstones of this government has been a discussion of preventive programs. In the words of the new director of the Ontario Child Abuse Prevention Centre, the centre will enhance the work being done "in the area of child abuse prevention." It is specifically in these areas where there are going to have to be cutbacks, however, as my friend alluded to, if this government does not put up some dollars to match its rhetoric.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Wrye:** The Ottawa society, for example, reports a 20 per cent decrease in the level of preventive services for this year—not for last year but for this year—and the reporting of sexual abuse in that community increased by 70 per cent in 1983 over 1982.

I want to repeat my question to this minister. The social services maintenance tax—and it is his name, not mine—was supposed to provide \$170 million last year and more than \$300 million this year. Why does the minister not put some of that funding into the children's aid societies and give them a chance to do the job he claims he wants them to do?

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** I believe I did answer that question before, but I will repeat it, since apparently it did not quite get to the essential part of the cranium of the member.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** The amount of funding the government has provided not only this past year but also in years previous, an amount that will be obviously apparent to all members when the budget is presented, is not in the position of taking second place to that of any other jurisdiction in Canada.

#### EXTRA BILLING

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, the Treasurer will know, because he reads the papers regularly, that the federal Parliament has now unanimously passed the Canada Health Act.

**Mr. McClellan:** Unanimously.

**Mr. Foulds:** Why is the Premier (Mr. Davis) leaving?

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Do not leave, Bill.

**Mr. Rae:** Have a nice time in Ireland.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Rae:** The Treasurer will also know that the incomes of doctors are six times the average industrial wage in Ontario. Given this fact, how can the minister possibly justify going around this province saying the average taxpayer is going to be taxed more to subsidize doctors, who are already very well off in comparison to everybody else?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, if the honourable member has studied the report of Justice Hall's commission and if he has studied the remarks some days of Monique Bégin, he will have found out that they as well as other admirers of the new system brought in by the Canada Health Act have all said—

**Mr. Bradley:** As supported by Brian Mulroney.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** —that if the doctors are opted in, they will have to be paid more money. This is not a fiction on this side of the House or in this Legislature; it is something that has been said by every single person who has recommended the Canada Health Act changes, from a study standpoint and from a governmental standpoint.

If that happens, then obviously even the member opposite will have to acknowledge that if they are paid out of the Ontario health insurance plan schedule, this means the average



taxpayer has to pick up the bill; there is no magic to that.

I repeat that this is not a fiction made up by anyone on this side; it is contained in the Hall report and in Monique Bégin's statements. Everyone is agreed that this will be the impact of these changes.

**Mr. Rae:** The Treasurer will also know, and if he does not know he should know, that, according to the Department of National Revenue, doctors' income taxes as a proportion of their total income have fallen from 37.8 per cent in 1971 to 32 per cent in 1981, over 10 years. At the same time, in Ontario the total provincial tax bill of the average family increased by 190 per cent between 1974 and 1983.

Given what is happening in this province with the number of unemployed there are and the sense that all is not perfectly fair in Ontario, how can the Treasurer justify a tax increase on the average family, which is already overtaxed, and a direct transfer payment to doctors, who are well off? How can he possibly justify that redistribution from the poor to the wealthy at this time?

2:30 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** It is because we share that concern that we on this side oppose the amendments to the Canada Health Act, which will have the direct impact the member is suggesting should be avoided. Let us make no mistake about it. The member can give all the fancy explanations that look pretty good about extra billing being banned, but the net impact of the Canada Health Act is exactly what he is complaining about. That is why—let us be clear—in the federal House and in this House only one group of people has had the courage to stand up and speak for the little people in society who are going to be punished by the Canada Health Act.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, will the Treasurer take his concern for the little people into consideration in the preliminary discussions surrounding his budget? Will he guarantee that there will be no increase in Ontario health insurance plan premiums, which would hit out at those who are least able to pay, that is, the 20 per cent of those who pay directly and who really do not have the ability to pay in this squeezed economy?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, no.

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, why is the Treasurer confusing this issue and trying to suggest that allowing extra billing is some Tory tax reform system that is well thought out? Why does he not

understand that incomes of doctors can be dealt with at the negotiating table? The issue before the legislators in the House of Commons, and now here in the Ontario Legislature, is either supporting or banning extra billing. Why does the government not take the position of outlawing extra billing in this province and deal with doctors' income at the negotiating table?

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member will forgive me if I do not bow to him in understanding the problems and intricacies of negotiating with the medical profession in the provision of what is perhaps our most important service.

Interjection.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** I understand how uncomfortable the leader of the third party is defending the rich at the expense of the poor. He is going to have to answer for that. We are not.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Grossman:** The member may consider it is clouding the issue when we say on this side of the House that the cost of looking after the three or four per cent of the public who are extra billed in the course of a year will be borne. He does not understand the numbers. He is going to have to do a lot more. Even the member for Bellwoods (Mr. McClellan) understands the figure and if the member asks him, he will explain it to him. If he does not explain it to him, there are 70 people on this side who can explain it to him.

When the member has an opportunity to speak with his predecessor and understand the figures, he will understand the reality. Three per cent of the population will be better off in terms of financial impact and 100 per cent of the population will be worse off, because someone is going to have to pay the costs of the Canada Health Act; it is either all the population or only that portion that is currently extra billed. Since that means a shift from the rich to the poor, we object to it on this side of the House.

#### GRANT TO STEEP ROCK

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Natural Resources concerning the misspending of Board of Industrial Leadership and Development funds. Does the minister recall that last August he handed to Steep Rock Resources, formerly Steep Rock Iron Mines, a grant of \$1.35 million to help pay for a \$7-million expansion of Steep Rock's calcite plant in Perth? Does he think it is appropriate that



the taxpayers of Ontario will have paid for approximately 20 per cent of the cost of that plant, considering that Steep Rock is a subsidiary of Canadian Pacific Enterprises?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I do.

**Mr. Laughren:** When the minister handed out that \$1.35 million in a period of restraint, was he aware that Steep Rock had already declared a special dividend of \$3.75 a share and later, after it got its \$1.35 million, declared another dividend of \$2.65 a share, for a total of \$6.40 a share? That was a special dividend because it claimed its treasury was cash-rich and it would not be expanding in the iron ore field in the next decade. When he handed out that award, was the minister aware of that?

Was he aware as well that the main beneficiary of that more than \$51 million was Canadian Pacific, which got about \$41 million by what I would call blatantly stripping the treasury of Steep Rock? Was he aware of those facts when he gave that grant with absolutely no guarantee that a single new job would be created?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** The honourable member is about eight months behind the member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy), who raised these matters last summer. I am aware that the corporate sector pays dividends to shareholders. I am also aware that it is very important for the corporate sector to invest in plant expansion in the industrial minerals sector in this province, because Ontario is importing \$120 million a year of industrial minerals and it is time we became self-sufficient. The BILD program is helping make that happen.

**Mr. Laughren:** The minister's arrogance is exceeded only by his ambition. Has the minister not had second thoughts since that time? Despite what he says, he could not have known that Steep Rock was going to declare its second special dividend. I do not think he would have known. If he did know that, it is even more outrageous that he went ahead with the grant.

Does he not understand that this is the same company that walked away from Atikokan, the same company that says it is not going to need the resources at Bending Lake, despite the fact the Minister of Northern Affairs (Mr. Bernier) has been spending millions on the road? Steep Rock says it is not going to need that for the next decade.

Has the minister not had any second thoughts at all about subsidizing Canadian Pacific Enterprises, a company that made \$94 million in 1983 and \$150 million in 1982? Does he think that is an appropriate use of taxpayers' money in

Ontario at a time of supposed restraint on the part of this government?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** I am aware that this company invested \$7 million in an expansion in the industrial minerals sector in Ontario, and that is what we want in this province.

## PENSION REFORM

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Provincial Secretary for Social Development. This government has not yet moved on private pension reform, and the group most disadvantaged by the delay is women. He will know that in 1980, of the 14,586 pension plans across Canada, 91 per cent provided no widows' pensions.

Bearing in mind that the role of the Provincial Secretary for Social Development, through the Minister of Community and Social Services, vis-a-vis the guaranteed annual income system for seniors is extremely important, I wonder whether the secretary could comment on the largess of his government. I understood him to say in answer to a previous question that this government has done more for social services than any other across Canada. I wonder whether he might comment on the provincial government's record with respect to Gains increases between 1980 and 1984.

2:40 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Dean:** Mr. Speaker, I think that question would be more appropriately addressed to the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea). I could add that the matter of pension reform and augmentation is under constant review.

**Ms. Copps:** I just want to refresh the superminister memory of the Provincial Secretary for Social Development. He may not be aware of the fact that between 1980 and 1984 there were no increases in Gains to senior citizens in that category.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Ms. Copps:** How can the minister justify his government's record in this regard when increases to ministers without portfolio in that same period were in the neighbourhood of \$15,243. There were no dollars for senior citizens' Gains increases across this province, but there was \$15,243 for ministers without portfolio. For those with a portfolio, such as the secretary, the increases were \$15,407. Is that a record of which the government should be proud?

Interjections.



**Hon. Mr. Dean:** I think the honourable member should also refresh her super memory. Any increases that took place for members of this side of the House were shared in the same proportion by all members on the other side of the House. I think the two items she is trying to compare are strictly unrelated.

Interjections.

**Mr. Rotenberg:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege: I think my privileges as a member of this House are being abused. I have been trying to hear the answers to the last several questions, but the members opposite are shouting so loudly I cannot hear a thing that is going on in the chamber. I would ask you to keep order, Mr. Speaker.

### PROTECTION OF WORKERS

**Mr. Rae:** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. I am sure the minister is aware that, effective this Friday, 133 workers at Canadian General Electric's Davenport plant in Toronto will be laid off indefinitely. The minister may not be aware that 4,000 jobs were lost in the electrical industry in the Metro region between 1975 and 1980. There is a haemorrhaging going on in some of our older industries. A lot of older workers are being devastated by this loss of jobs that has taken place over time.

Will the minister please introduce some reforms, some measures with respect to employment standards, retraining and relocation to ensure that workers who are affected by this industrial change finally get some protection? Will he please start taking the security interests of the workers of this province more seriously? We see so many of them being devastated by these changes.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member would like the audience in attendance today to think he and his colleagues are the only ones who are concerned about the problem out there.

**Mr. Martel:** What audience is the minister talking about?

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Who warned the minister about the closing of the six Canadian General Electric plants?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I can only repeat what I have said on other occasions when similar questions have been asked. In my opinion, the type of legislation the members opposite suggest would not resolve the situation.

**Mr. Rae:** I would like the minister to put himself in this situation. There are workers at the CGE plant who have been there for more than 40 years. They have received one week's notice with respect to the events that have taken place at the Davenport plant.

I would like to ask the minister to think about the position of those workers and say: "Should we not be doing more for the older worker in this province who is being devastated by these kinds of changes? Should we not be giving him something in terms of early retirement? Should we not be moving in terms of the security legislation in the interests of those workers?"

How can the minister justify doing nothing when faced with that kind of change in our older industries? How can he justify just sitting back and not providing the workers in those industries with any security at all when the workers are trying to provide for themselves and for their futures?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** The honourable member feels that by raising his voice he can resolve every problem. It is just not as easy as that.

As far as getting my attention, these matters are brought to my attention each and every day and not by long distance.

**Mr. Foulds:** Why does the minister not do something about them then?

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Well, do something then. I told the minister about the CGE closings a year ago. There are six of them now that are going to close down.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** I am exposed to it on a daily basis, face to face, unlike the leader of the third party.

**Mr. Rae:** Does the minister think we do not see it every day?

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, we understand the government is not going to move with any further progressive legislation. We know that, but can the minister assure us that he will undertake to track the workers who have been laid off to find out exactly what happens to them and to their families. Are they able to obtain other jobs? Do they end up on welfare? I want him to track this and report to the House whether or not these people lose their homes and properties.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Mancini:** I want to know also the type of retraining his government has offered each worker. Can he give us that information?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** The honourable member suggested further progressive legislation. By that



I assume he is referring to the legislation in place at present. It is more extensive than that in any other jurisdiction on the North American continent.

I would also have to remind the member—and I do this with some reluctance because even though the figures are vastly improved, they are still disastrous—the number of plant closures and the number of people affected by plant closures in 1983 over 1982 has improved by some 60 per cent. I am not going to say that is great until there is not a single plant closure; nevertheless, there is an improvement.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

Interjection.

**Mr. Speaker:** Will the member for Essex South please resume his seat?

**Mr. O'Neil:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Solicitor General.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The member for Fort William was on his feet and I did not see him.

2:50 p.m.

#### APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENCE

**Mr. Hennessy:** Mr. Speaker, I would just like to remind you that last night a woman who is four feet, nine inches in height won an Academy award. Remember that.

I would like to pose my question to the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations. The Otava Male Choir and the Fort William Male Choir are holding a joint spring concert and dance at the Lakehead Exhibition Coliseum in Thunder Bay on May 5, 1984, and are hoping to attract an audience of up to 800 persons. The local Liquor Licence Board of Ontario office has advised that, in light of the numbers expected, they must forward their licence application to the Toronto office.

Why does the application have to go to the LLBO in Toronto? Is everybody in Thunder Bay dumb? I would just like to get the answer. Are the liquor laws not the same in Thunder Bay as they are in Toronto? I think a delay of any kind could cause financial hardship.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and delight to respond to the seven-foot-tall member for Fort William. Those of us who sit with him in caucus sometimes think of him as eight feet tall, as a matter of fact.

He asked me directly what I thought of the people in Thunder Bay. I have the same high

regard for them as the member does, and I know I say that on behalf of all members of this House.

Second, the issue raised relates basically to the number of people likely to attend an occasion which requires a special occasion permit. The practice of the board over the years has evolved to the point that, where there are to be large crowds, the board, in conjunction with the municipalities, had come to an understanding that perhaps the board in its central location should evaluate the facility and its capacities in a standard way in relation with the departments of health and the police.

This has simply been a practice that has evolved over the years. I am sure it is not one about which the board has fixed and rigid views. Since the member has raised the issue, it is a matter I would quite happily refer to the board for reconsideration because, if there are no valid reasons in his community for the referral to Toronto, I think it certainly should be looked at.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Hennessy:** From what I understand, we have inspectors up in Thunder Bay. They are as qualified as the inspectors down in Toronto; they take the same examinations and follow the same rule book. Is it not possible for the minister to look into this and give the people in Thunder Bay the necessary authority that the people have in Toronto?

**Hon. Mr. Elgie:** I have indicated the way the practice has evolved with the board. I have also indicated I am pleased to ask the board if it will review its practices in areas where municipalities, their police departments and their departments of health feel this central referral is no longer necessary. I am certainly prepared to have those discussions with the board.

**Mr. Eakins:** Mr. Speaker, rather than deal with the question of alcohol use and abuse in Ontario in an ad hoc manner, does the minister not think the time has come to have a complete review of the policies of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario and everything connected with alcohol consumption in this province?

**Mr. Speaker:** Interesting as it may be, I do not think that question was supplementary.

**Mr. Eakins:** Oh, yes, it is.

**Mr. Riddell:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: In view of the fact that you did not consider that question a supplementary, would you allow me a supplementary on the question?



**Mr. Speaker:** No, because the supplementary was used.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** The time was used.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO POLICE COMMISSIONS

**Mr. O'Neil:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Solicitor General and it concerns what we consider political appointments to police commissions across this province. So the minister might have some background, a recent article appearing in the Belleville paper said:

"The Quinte Labour Council Tuesday passed a resolution condemning the political appointments of the two newest members of the Belleville police commission, saying that they were made solely due to both new commissioners' former and current affiliation to the Progressive Conservative Party."

Can the minister tell me whether it is his policy and that of his government to appoint to police commissions across Ontario active elected members of the executive of the local Progressive Conservative Party? It appears the recent appointments that have been made across the province have been made bearing in mind the appointees' political affiliation.

Interjections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** Am I on now, Mr. Speaker? An awful lot of other people seem to have the floor.

I think there was a question there, although there was a lot of rhetoric preceding it. In appointing members to the police commissions and in making recommendations to cabinet, I follow the process of trying to find the best people to fill those positions. Overall, I think we have done an admirable job in that process.

There was a piece of legislation in this House late last year increasing the numbers. I can assure members I have not had the same difficulties in seeking out capable people with integrity and ability who want to serve on these commissions as I have noticed some of the municipalities have had in trying to fill their role in putting in their members.

I do not recall even receiving a recommendation from the honourable member for his area when he knew full well there were appointments open there. I have no apologies for the first-rate and capable individuals I recommend to cabinet, and the Lieutenant Governor in Council makes the final appointments. If some of them happen to have had some association, or even may have

voted at some time for the Progressive Conservative Party, that speaks very highly of their capabilities and their position for these jobs. If the member were to check his brethren at the federal level, I am sure he would find there is some affiliation in the appointments made by the Liberal government from time to time.

**Mr. O'Neil:** I can appreciate the minister's comments, and I understand sometimes there are political appointments to different boards. But when we have what has happened over the last couple of months, where the minister has appointed political hacks, and especially people who are actively involved in the executive of a political association, this is a very dangerous situation. I think the minister is infiltrating the police commissions of this province with political hacks, and that is very dangerous.

Would the minister supply for this Legislature the names of the people who have been appointed to police commissions across this province who are actively engaged in and are elected members of their local Progressive Conservative associations?

**Hon. G. W. Taylor:** Since that is not a qualification, I do not know which ones are actively engaged and have the qualifications the member suggests. If he would be more specific and name the individuals he thinks are not qualified for office, I will be delighted to review the appointments and see if any of them need to be impeached. I would be delighted if he would put a motion on the floor impeaching those individuals he thinks are not qualified to serve as members of the police commissions of Ontario.

**Mr. Cooke:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health.

Interjections.

3 p.m.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I thought that maple sugar would sweeten everybody's disposition.

#### PRIVATE SECTOR ROLE IN HOSPITALS

**Mr. Cooke:** I have a question for the Minister of Health. The minister will be aware that Stratford General Hospital has been trying to obtain funding approval from the Ministry of Health since 1970 for a renovation and replacement program.

The first phase of this project involves replacement of the rehabilitation and extended care units of the hospital. The minister will understand that the normal funding ratio has been one third local and two thirds from the Ministry



of Health, but that ratio seems to have gone out of whack in the last couple of years.

The hospital board at Stratford has been told by the ministry that if it wants government assistance it should look to the private sector for private sector involvement as well and that the two-thirds portion from the ministry is out of the question until at least after 1990.

Why is this government telling the public hospital system in this province it must have private sector involvement and eliminating the option most hospitals in this province want to maintain, that is, to have hospitals publicly run by boards at the local level without private sector control over their hospitals?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, there are, as usual, a number of implicit misconceptions in the question that has just been raised. First, the ministry is not in the practice of directing hospitals on how they might approach the construction or the raising of funds for the construction of the facilities they have identified as needed or required.

In the course of discussions with staff from the ministry, ministry staff might well have had occasion to suggest a variety of alternatives that have been tried, and very successfully so, in other instances across the province. I want to make it clear we are not directing what may happen but simply pointing out a variety of options they might choose to explore.

The second point the member has clearly misunderstood is the situation that arises in those few instances where there has been private sector involvement in the construction and perhaps even in the management of chronic care facilities, for example. That does not in any way replace the responsibility of the board of a hospital to which the operator is responsible. It is merely an alternative approach to the management of the operation that is open to any hospital corporation in this province and always has been. It does not mean the hospital board's responsibility for the policy and the accountability in the operation of that facility is in any way diminished.

**Mr. Cooke:** If hospital boards are to have the options available to them, does the minister not understand that more capital is going to have to be put in the system? It is my understanding that right now approximately \$4 billion worth of capital work needs to be done in the public hospital system in this province. At the rate of capital being allotted by the ministry, it will take nearly 20 years to meet the capital requirements that are in place now.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Cooke:** How can the minister say he is giving hospital boards the option when he is not putting the capital into the system and when he has said to the Stratford hospital that if it wants the renovations to be done in its hospital it is going to have to go to the private sector, because it is not going to get the two thirds from the Ministry of Health until at least after 1990? How can he say this at a time when sections of that hospital have actually been condemned as a firetrap by the public inspection panel in Perth county?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** We are trying to be helpful, not only to that particular hospital but to others that come before us with requests. I would venture to say the member or any of the people in his caucus are unaccustomed to establishing real priorities at a time of financial and economic difficulty, as has been the case over the last couple of years in this province and across the country—in fact, throughout the western world—which only serves to show they would be totally unable to cope with the realities of office at a time like this.

We are accustomed to trying to struggle with the question of priorities. If we talk only about the requests we know are emanating from within the health care or hospital sector across this province, I suggest his \$4-billion estimate is low-balling it substantially. I think it might even be as much as 50 per cent higher than that over the next decade. Nevertheless, we have to address the reality of priorities and we are attempting to do that.

When a hospital such as the one the member cites is faced with a recognized need to replace a facility, we simply encourage it to recognize the economic difficulties being faced across the province and suggest that it explore other alternatives to ensure the facility is replaced in an appropriate period of time.

#### FOREST MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Natural Resources. I would like to know why the minister is now planning to remove close to 12,000 acres from the proposed Brightsand River candidate park area, a park area identified in the Ignace district land use guidelines, in the Graham planning area and so on.

Here we have a situation where the ink is barely dry on his district land use guidelines, he does not even have a process for amending district plans, but he is entering into a forest



management agreement called the Brightsand River forest management agreement, which would remove these 12,000 acres.

Do these plans and guidelines really mean anything to the minister? Why is he not taking his own advice and recognizing that he is going to have to follow some guidelines, preferably his own?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the Brightsand River FMA. I am also aware of the prescriptions for harvest activities and the exclusions to protect other resource values. I am also cognizant of the provisions for reforestation in that FMA. I think in drafting the FMA and in drafting the 20-year and five-year plans under the FMA, we have taken account of the land use guidelines and the other resource values we are striving to protect.

We indicated we had 155 candidate parks. We moved on the six wilderness parks last year. This year we are moving on the waterway parks. I think our initiatives in parks creation and development are second to none in North America.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** The minister has said in his land use guidelines that forest availability is fully manageable up to the end of the century. Why is he undertaking now to circumvent what amounts to about 10 years and \$300 million worth of effort, and to short-circuit that before he even gets the proposed parks on the road and before he gets anything going? He said in that report the lumber supply is fully manageable. Why would he now completely reverse himself?

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** I do not think the honourable member understands the situation.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** I am trying to.

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** I do not know if he is.

We are talking about an area that has already been licensed. It is already licensed for harvesting. The FMA is going on to that licensed area to accelerate reforestation programs. The FMA is going on to that area to exclude some of the previously licensed areas for other resource values to protect the natural environment. There are prescriptions on the harvesting techniques to protect other resource values. That follows the district land use guidelines precisely.

3:10 p.m.

The member knows as well as I do that elements of practice for the Ministry of Natural Resources emanating from the district land use guidelines are being applied in the field. There are directives going out to the district and regional offices, and they implement those

policies and procedures laid out in the land use guidelines.

I do not think the member understands all of the things that are happening. There has been no circumventing of the district land use guidelines; there has been no circumventing of the strategic land use planning program. We have put forest management agreements in place over an extended time in this province and we amended them in 1981—

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a very complete answer. Thank you very much.

## ORGANIZED CRIME

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General. The government has declared this to be Community Justice Week, with special emphasis on the theme "Justice for Victims: Let's Care and Share." Later today, I will be introducing for the third time my bill entitled An Act to prevent Unjust Enrichment through the Financial Exploitation of Crime.

The Attorney General will recall that Chung Yim Kuan, aged 41, was killed on May 4, 1977, when an early morning dynamite blast rocked the building housing the Wah Kew Chop Suey House restaurant on Elizabeth Street. Kuan, a cook, was working in the kitchen when the explosion occurred. Four other people were hurt. The dynamite was planted by Cecil Kirby, a mob enforcer who was given immunity for past crimes, including the Kuan murder, in return for testimony against organized crime figures.

On Tuesday, March 6, on the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. program Fifth Estate, a discussion about organized crime in Canada took place with Cecil Kirby, a former contract killer who became a police witness.

Will the Attorney General advise this House of the particulars of the financial and contractual arrangements between the CBC and Cecil Kirby, to confirm whether or not it is accurate that Cecil Kirby received upwards of \$200,000 for his appearance on that program?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, this is the first I have heard of any suggestion that Mr. Kirby received anything from the CBC for his appearance on that program. It has not been suggested to me that he did, so all I can say is this is something I have not heard anything whatsoever about.

## MOTION

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BUSINESS

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the following substitutions be made in the order of precedence



for private members' public business: Mr. McClellan for Mr. Samis as number 18; Mr. Cooke for Mr. McClellan as number 27; Mr. Samis for Mr. Cooke as number 63; and that Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Gillies exchange positions in the order of precedence.

Motion agreed to.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### TOWNSHIP OF FAUQUIER-STRICKLAND ACT

Mr. Piché moved, seconded by Mr. Gordon, first reading of Bill Pr20, An Act to continue the Corporation of the Townships of Shackleton and Machin under the name of the Corporation of the Township of Fauquier-Strickland.

Motion agreed to.

### LIFELINE ACT

Mr. Sargent moved, seconded by Mr. Newman, first reading of Bill 32, An Act to provide for a Basic Residential Power Rate Applicable to the Essential Energy Needs of Residential Households in Ontario.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Sargent:** Mr. Speaker, this is the fifth time this bill has been presented. It is not Hydro lines, not party lines and it will not affect the average citizen, but it will help the poor, those on fixed incomes, the small home owner, the apartment dweller and low-power users. It is called the Lifeline Act.

It is a legislative proposal to provide a low, fixed, fair price for the amount of electricity a family needs for basics such as lighting, refrigeration and electrical necessities. The amount is about 500 kilowatts per month and should cost about two cents per kilowatt. A user of 500 kilowatts would have a monthly bill of about \$10.

Every member of the government speaking to me personally supported this bill, but when they came to vote on it they did not have the guts to vote for it. They voted party line. It is important this bill be passed this year.

### PROFITS FROM CRIME ACT

Mr. Renwick moved, seconded by Mr. Martel, first reading of Bill 33, An Act to prevent Unjust Enrichment through the Financial Exploitation of Crime.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Speaker, this is the third occasion on which I have introduced this bill in the House, endeavouring to seek support from

the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) for its passage by the assembly.

In substance, it provides a method by which any funds payable with respect to the exploitation of a crime to a person defined in the act as a person accused of the crime, may be diverted to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board for a period of time. This will permit those persons who have been injured by acts of that person to make a claim to the board for those funds. At the end of that time, if no claims have been made or if there is any balance left, it is payable to the person who had received the money pursuant to the contract.

It is a carefully designed bill consistent with the right of everyone to freedom of expression and opinion. I ask that this year this bill receive the consideration of the House.

3:20 p.m.

### ONTARIO FARM OWNERSHIP CONTROL ACT

Mr. Swart moved, seconded by Mr. Philip, first reading of Bill 34, An Act to control Nonresident Ownership of Agricultural Land in Ontario.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, this bill is intended to replace the present Nonresident Agricultural Land Interests Registration Act. Instead of simple registration, it places a 10-hectare limit on nonresident ownership of Ontario farm land, and it provides for compliance by an order of the Ontario farm ownership board, which could be enforced with an order of the Supreme Court. Nonresidents are required to report all their holdings of farm land and to divest more than 10 hectares within five years.

The Ontario farm ownership board may under certain circumstances permit nonresident applicants to acquire or hold more land than the 10-hectare limit, and it may impose terms and conditions on its permission. It is an offence to exceed the 10-hectare limit except with the board's permission. The maximum fine is \$100,000. The maximum fine for furnishing false information or obstructing an inspector is \$5,000, and for failing to file a required report, \$25,000.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### COUNTY COURTS AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. McMurtry moved second reading of Bill 1, An Act to amend the County Courts Act.



**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Attorney General has some comment he would like to make.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, I have a brief statement.

This bill, as the members know, will increase the monetary jurisdiction of the county court from \$15,000 to \$25,000. This proposed increase already forms part of the Courts of Justice Act. However, we are proceeding with this parallel amendment to the County Courts Act at this time because we do not anticipate the Courts of Justice Act will come into force before the end of this year.

Increasing the monetary jurisdiction of the county court at this time will permit an early start to be made on reducing the trial work load of the High Court. This is desirable because the Courts of Justice Act will give the Divisional Court, which is composed of High Court judges, new jurisdiction over appeals where the amount in issue is less than \$25,000.

The relatively short time between the launching of an appeal and the hearing of it will produce an early impact on the work load of the Divisional Court once the Courts of Justice Act comes into force. However, since the time between the commencement of an action and the trial of the action is considerably longer, reduction in the High Court trial work load as a result of the increase in the county court's jurisdiction will take much longer to be felt. Accordingly, it is desirable to have the monetary jurisdiction of the county court changed before the appeal route change comes into force.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Speaker, as the Attorney General has mentioned, the bill is complementary to what is already included in Bill 100, the Courts of Justice Act, which we will also be dealing with at the committee stage this afternoon. The increase from \$15,000 to \$25,000 certainly can be accepted on the basis that the court backlog may not otherwise be reduced. That is the way it is sold and, as a result, there may be some merit in it.

The other side of the coin, of course, is that putting any particular monetary jurisdiction does seem to separate, as the sheep and the goats are separated in holy scripture, those in the Supreme Court and those in the county court. I know my friend and colleague the member for Ottawa East (Mr. Roy) may wish to speak on that theme. The jurisdictional differences may cause some judges to feel they are less than qualified compared with the responsibilities their brethren have.

The bill is brought forward with the understanding that we require this particular change in case Bill 100 does not come fully into play within the next few months. I hope our passage of Bill 1 will be superfluous in that Bill 100 will be well in place. However, I can see the reason for going ahead with this bill at this time.

I expect the bill will be dealt with readily by the House this afternoon so royal assent can be obtained and the mechanics put in place that would allow these jurisdictional changes to occur.

I am most impressed with the need to speed up, as best we can, the opportunities for prompt trials, particularly in monetary jurisdictional areas such as this. There are a number of counties within our province that have most of their backlog of cases in good hand. However, the Supreme Court backlog could well be substantially cut if this kind of change is made. There is also the benefit in that it allows not only a speedier but also a less expensive trial for litigants whose financial claims fall within these guidelines of being less than \$25,000.

Accordingly, I am prepared to accept the legislation based on the statement the Attorney General has made.

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our caucus, let me say that we have no particular concern about the bill. We understand the intention of the bill and the reason for its introduction at this time. The County Courts Act, as amended by this bill, will be repealed in due course when Bill 100, which we will be dealing with in committee of the whole House, comes into force.

As to the question of jurisdiction, I think the increase in the dollar amount of the civil jurisdiction of the county courts is long overdue.

We will support the bill. We see no reason why it need go to committee for consideration.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Speaker, I must say I disagree with the proposition put forward by the Attorney General. I have heard my colleagues make certain comments about why the legislation to increase the jurisdiction of the county court is desirable. I have some very strong views about why that should not be done.

First of all, I want in no way to demean the useful and very competent role played by the High Court in this province and the capacity, competence and good service given by all members of that court, nor do I wish to demean the Supreme Court judges who travel from one county to the next and service an area I know very well, the Ottawa area. We have been very



blessed by the competence of the Supreme Court judges who adjudicate in our area. I hope none of my comments will be translated as wanting in any way to demean the competence of the individuals who serve on that court, because I have nothing but the highest respect for all the individuals on the court.

What I am saying is that I find the change increasing the monetary jurisdiction from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for the county court somewhat insulting to that bench.

What is happening now? I can tell this to the House from first-hand experience in the Ottawa-Carleton area, and I know it is a fact in other areas of the province. For instance, London, Ontario, is another area where this goes on.

**3:30 p.m.**

The county court bench, led by their senior judge, are servicing their areas very well. Their court lists are up to date. In fact, I know in Ottawa-Carleton, if a trial is set on the ready list of trials, it will be heard within a matter of a month or two, whereas if one happens to go to the Supreme Court and put one's case on the Supreme Court list as ready, it may well take a year, a year and a half or longer. I am talking about Ottawa-Carleton; I do not know what it is like in Toronto.

I cannot speak too much for Toronto, because the High Court is situated here. I can speak for Ottawa-Carleton or other areas of the province, where there are terrible delays at the Supreme Court level. I think the Attorney General will agree with me that all levels of the administration of justice have been trying their very best to remedy the situation where there are such lengthy delays, especially at the criminal and civil levels.

The circumstance of there being such delays at the Supreme Court level is often abused by lawyers who act for insurance companies, large corporations and others. The minute a lawyer starts a county court action that may exceed the former \$15,000 and will now exceed \$25,000—in this world there are many actions, and it does not take a very serious motor vehicle accident to exceed \$25,000 today—the lawyer will shove the case on to the Supreme Court list, knowing full well that by so doing the case will be delayed for a year and a half longer than it would be in the county court. This is a frequent abuse.

We say to the county court bench, "You are competent enough as judges to hear a rape case," which involves the liberty of the individual and issues that are in many ways far more important than any monetary jurisdiction. We say to county court judges: "You are bright and competent

enough to listen to a case like that. You can even adjudicate a robbery case where there has been violence." I think many people in this province will agree that kind of case is far more important than a case involving \$25,000. I am not saying it is more important to the individual involved, but if we were to look at objective standards, we might say, "I think it is important that we get competent adjudication in matters involving serious criminal offences, such as rape and robbery."

It is somewhat insulting to say to the same judges, "You are competent enough to hear those cases, but you are not competent enough if a case exceeds \$25,000." The county court can hear a case involving more than \$25,000 if all parties agree to the jurisdiction, but that is not what is happening. In many cases where lawyers act on behalf of insurance companies, in civil actions where insurance companies are involved, inevitably the lawyers will shove the cases up to the Supreme Court.

In the process they are saying to the county court bench, and we are acquiescing this afternoon, "Unfortunately, if the matter exceeds \$25,000 and the parties do not agree, we do not think you are competent enough or capable enough to listen to this case, and it is going to have to go to the High Court." I really think that is somewhat insulting to the county court bench.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Does my friend want to leave it at \$15,000?

**Mr. Roy:** I suggest either it should be left at \$15,000, if the minister is just propagating the insult, or he should take away the monetary jurisdiction completely. Some law associations have suggested to the Attorney General in connection with the next bill on the agenda, Bill 100, some alternative to the present administration of justice.

Many very competent individuals who are prime candidates to sit on the bench are not prepared, for instance, to accept a Supreme Court appointment because it means they have to move to Toronto. Some of these people may enjoy living in Thunder Bay, Windsor, London, Ottawa, Kitchener or wherever; they may not particularly care to move to Toronto. They are very competent people but they accept the county court appointment. By so doing, we are saying to them, "If you happen to be on the county court, we consider you to be somewhat inferior, less competent, and we are going to limit your jurisdiction to less than \$25,000."

The Attorney General asked me whether I think we should leave it at \$15,000. I say if he is



going to continue this superficial demarcation of one jurisdiction with the next, he might as well leave it at \$15,000.

Frankly, I have a suggestion to make to the Attorney General, and I want to be constructive in this process. He should increase the jurisdiction of the small claims court to \$5,000 and he should take away the monetary jurisdiction of the county court completely. That would be a way of making the demarcation if he wants to continue this superficial distinction between the High Court and the county court, but he should not play around with this superficial distinction on a monetary level.

I understand why the Attorney General is doing this. He is saying: "It looks as though, in most cases, the county court lists are up to date. We have to give them more work. The Supreme Court lists are too long. They are overburdened. There are too many delays. By increasing the monetary jurisdiction from \$15,000 to \$25,000, we are going to give more work to the county court.

When one considers the competence—there may be some exceptions—of county court judges who are entrusted to hear cases involving very serious criminal matters, very often and with the consent of the parties they have been known to make awards involving more than \$100,000. If that is the situation, why do we bother having a monetary jurisdiction at all? The Attorney General should give that some consideration.

He should agree with me that it is wrong to say to a county court judge, "We trust you to be competent and to give adjudication up to \$25,000, but for more than \$25,000 we should take that jurisdiction away." I disagree with that. When we discuss Bill 100, I may explain why I think there should be some fundamental changes and why we should remove this distinction between the High Court and the county court and look at some interesting proposals made by county law associations to deal with that problem.

I repeat, in commenting on the county court judges and the very excellent work they are doing in many jurisdictions of this province, that I want in no way to demean the competence and the excellent service that has been given by the High Court judges coming from Toronto. All I am saying is that in 1984 Ontario it is time to look seriously at the setup and ask, "Should we really be imposing a \$25,000 jurisdiction on the county court bench?" I say we should not.

3:40 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** I agree with the member for Ottawa East when he reflects on the competence of the county court bench in this province. It is a highly qualified bench. The form of merger he is proposing is one that has been proposed in other quarters, and it is obviously a matter that will continue to be the subject of a good deal of debate.

One has to accept the fact that there have been historical differences in this province in relation to the jurisdiction of these courts. This matter was reflected upon by the Ontario Law Reform Commission under the very distinguished leadership of the former Chief Justice of the High Court, Mr. Justice McRuer. After considering the matter very carefully, he decided to recommend that we should maintain the distinction of jurisdictions between the county court and the Supreme Court.

At the same time, I realize this is not an issue about which one can be an absolutist, because in this province we are very fortunate in the quality of the judiciary. We do have a very highly qualified county court bench as well as a very highly qualified Supreme Court bench, as the member for Ottawa East has readily conceded.

Tinkering with these jurisdictions without knowing just what the end result will be can be a risky business. For example, his proposal that the county court be given an unlimited jurisdiction, basically meaning a concurrent jurisdiction with the Supreme Court, apart from any other concerns that have been expressed, would be, among other things, taking a major gamble as to just what would happen with the court lists around this province. One could readily see where the court lists would get completely out of whack because it would be impossible to predict what the end result would be.

I do not expect the debate to end with the passage of this legislation or with the passage of Bill 100. It is an issue the profession will continue to address. But it is very clear to me that the consensus within the profession now—I am most concerned about the public interest, but I think the consensus does reflect the proper or appropriate public interest—indicates that at this point in our history some differences in the monetary jurisdiction can still be justified.

Again, one must relate to what I would refer to as the bottom line. The bottom line is that the people in this province are well served by the judges who are dealing with these cases at all levels of the courts. When one makes changes, one should make changes relatively cautiously in



dealing with a system that functions very well at the present time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill ordered for third reading.

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AMENDMENT ACT

Hon. Mr. McMurtry moved second reading of Bill 18, An Act to amend the Justices of the Peace Act.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, this legislation was just introduced for first reading the other day, and I do not think I have anything to add to the statement I gave at that time.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Speaker, recently I was reading a book by Anthony Sampson called *The Changing Anatomy of Britain*. It is a book he has published four times now, I believe, as he has looked at changes in the British scene over the past 20 or 30 years. I was interested in the couple of pages he devoted to a portion of the court system dealing particularly with magistrates, because the provincial judges, the justices of the peace and the others we have developed within our province relate to the English traditions.

I was quite surprised to read that the origins of the justices of the peace go deep into the Middle Ages, before any legal bureaucracy existed. They were established in 1361, the first English institution set up by statute. The function of that office was to provide three or four people in each English county to keep the peace and punish offenders.

It will be of interest to know that for several centuries justices of the peace ran the whole local government as the instruments of the monarchy. Many of them, of course, served both as JPs and as members of Parliament. I suppose a goodly number of them were somewhat arbitrary and eccentric. They controlled the local constables and dealt rather ruthlessly from time to time with various miscreants, vagrants and poachers.

It was an interesting institution. It is one Mr. Sampson refers to. There are a couple of quotations I think will be of interest. He writes: "After the Second World War the magistrates were still very unrepresentative and often eccentric: a quarter were aged over 70 and 14 over 90." Then there is one small, four-word sentence that reads, "Nearly all were Tories."

He goes on to say, "In the county, many were large land owners, as they had been 600 years earlier." There is another small quotation: "Magistrates are still predominantly middle class, selected by secretive local advisory committees, which sometimes tend to perpetuate

organized groups such as Rotarians and Freemasons."

Naturally, I do not think we have all those aspects in Ontario. I know that at least there are no serving JPs over 90. Whether they are still all Tories is yet to be proved, but I suppose some day the records may be entirely open. How they are appointed may still have some secretive connections, but I do not necessarily think to groups such as Rotarians and Freemasons.

Interestingly enough, this basic function of what became a development of the court system and of the local government system was part of Ontario's framework over these past 200 years. Perhaps in this bicentennial year we can refer, at least for a moment, to the traditions of the JP system which were part of our own heritage from the earliest days of the development of the English common law.

The legislation before us dates, during this past year, from a number of incidents that called into question the possibility of the independence of justices of the peace, who were particularly concerned about some infringement of that independence because of certain requirements that might see them compromised, not only through the setting of their salaries but also with respect to continuing after the normal retirement time on a year-by-year basis at the pleasure of the Attorney General. As a result, to clear the air, we have the bill that is before us now.

The object of the bill is to give a greater level of independence to justices of the peace. It is going to ensure that removal from the bench can only be for cause and only after an investigation of whatever event may be complained of by the Justices of the Peace Review Council.

We are also aware that is the kind of practice that has occurred, but it is time to bring it into a clear legislative framework, and the Attorney General is to be commended for doing that.

Retirement at 65 and continuation to the age of 70 will now be at the discretion of the Chief Judge on a year-by-year basis. That, too, sets a framework which removes it from any political presumption or any burden of difficulty as to independence, which at least some of the JPs saw as a possible development. Finally, the use of JPs, their calendar of how they do their tasks, will be under the control of the Chief Judge.

**3:50 p.m.**

Those three themes will go a long way to satisfy the requirement of independence. It is not only the requirement that it exists; it is the requirement, as in so many other things, that it be seen to exist.



The Attorney General has come to grips with this concern. I am pleased to see at least a press quotation from Mr. Morris Manning, the solicitor who represents the association, that "the matter of security of office and the other proposals which have been brought forward in the bill are acceptable to the justices of the peace." Accordingly, we can support them as well.

The various proposals before us do clear up an area of some concern that was a bit murky. I commend the Attorney General for dealing promptly with this matter; the questions that have arisen in the past will be attended to for the future.

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity last evening to be reading Letters of Junius. There is some very instructive information with respect to the office of the justice of the peace in his letters to Chief Justice Mansfield in England. They were highly critical of the chief justice for exceeding his authority in a question of bail when a person had been caught in flagrante vindicto.

**Mr. McClellan:** Delicto.

**Mr. Renwick:** Delicto. I thank the member for Bellwoods.

In those letters, Junius goes at some length into the history of the office, its origin and its development. It is probably the finest synoptic statement of the history of the office up to that time that exists anywhere. I would, at some point, commend the two letters to the Attorney General.

I find always when the Attorney General takes this course that it is one of the most frustrating things about him as Attorney General. We get a bill that deals with justices of the peace only when the pressure is on the Attorney General to satisfy a problem that has arisen. The problem, of course, is the one to which the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt) has alluded, the question of whether or not they are independent persons in exercising their function in accordance with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

We are aware of the case which is still, as I understand it, before the courts on the question of the independence of the justices of the peace. That accounts for the clause in the bill that specifically reserves that question until it is decided by the courts, and quite properly so.

My frustration relates not to the content of the bill, the attempt to provide for the kind of security of tenure and protection for justices of the peace in the multitudinous duties they perform in the system of the administration of

justice. We have in this assembly heard little, if anything, in a direct way about the report to the Attorney General in 1982 on the office and function of the justices of the peace in Ontario. That report reviews in a scholarly and detailed way all the problems with that office in the province, as they are perceived.

The frustration always arises when one finds that the McRuer report dealt with many very substantial questions related to the position of the justices of the peace in the administration of justice system in Ontario.

Of course, the Ontario Law Reform Commission also reported and repeated a great deal of what the McRuer commission had to say. There have been some incremental changes, but that kind of plodding change at that level of the administration of justice system is quite inadequate.

I suppose it can only be reflected in the paragraph at the top of page 14 of Professor Mewett's report, where he is speaking about the five classifications. Having dealt with the five classifications of justices of the peace and the authority granted within those particular classifications by reason of the directions that are given to them, which are, of course, (a) expanded, (b), (c) and (d) and the references made in this paragraph to those classifications, he has this to say:

"As can be seen, the 'classification' of justices of the peace is chaotic, as are the various methods and levels of remuneration. Some are full-time, some fee-paid. A few have annual retainers, some are civil servants. Some are public servants. 'Per diem justices of the peace' seem to be justices of the peace only a couple evenings a week. Some are sitting justices of the peace, some are signing justices of the peace. Some have (a) expanded directions, some only (d) direction and the rest are anywhere in between. The system is hopelessly confused and unnecessarily complex."

Further on in his report, he deals with the question of the remuneration of justices of the peace. He states in no uncertain terms how much he deplores the question of the piecework method of remuneration of the great bulk of JPs. He gives some figures in his report, and yesterday I spoke with the appropriate member of the minister's department to be brought up to date.

Of the 800 justices of the peace in the province at present, approximately 600 are on a fee basis. That fee may vary from next to nothing, depending on the level of services performed, up to the point where, as I understand it, they may well earn more in fees than a salaried justice of



the peace. Out of the 800, as I have said, 600 are on a fee basis; at present only about 80 are salaried—Professor Mewett indicates 83—and the balance are in various stages of inactivity, living out the period of their appointment.

The Legislature and our caucus simply have to convey to the Attorney General that it is all very well to devote a great amount of time to the ethereal levels of the justice system, but one of the areas where many people come in touch with the judicial system is the office of the justice of the peace. Anyone can read in this bill the specific changes that are being made and might ask: “Why in 1984 do we have to pass this kind of bill? Why was the status and the position of justices of the peace not reviewed long ago?”

We certainly have few, if any, objections to the individual provisions of the bill. They seem to fit within the technical requirements of the precise kind of legislative amendment designed to achieve the purposes set out in the explanatory notes to the bill. For that reason, we see no use in putting the bill into committee of the whole House. But it is our hope, considering the McRuer report, the Ontario Law Reform Commission report, and the Mewett report, this office will be the subject of a complete overhaul reasonably soon.

**4 p.m.**

I do not know the criteria under which the Attorney General decides to recommend to the executive council whether or not by order in council an appointment of a person to the office of justice of the peace should be made. I hope there has been significant progress in that ministry to ensure that those who are now appointed are persons who have the capacity and background to exercise the duties of the office.

The classification system seems to me to be an unworkable method of determining which justices can perform which functions. There is no way, except by trial and error, a member of the public can decide whether a person who has the title of justice of the peace can answer the inquiry a person may want to make of him. He is dependent entirely on the ministry supplying justices at particular points in the justice system to determine whether that person has the authority.

There are no people in the riding of Riverdale who understand there are five classifications of justices of the peace when they go to the old city hall or to College Street for the purpose of swearing out some kind of an information because of an allegation with respect to some offence that has been committed against them.

They do not have any idea which justices of the peace are restricted to only some signing authority.

The whole question of justices of the peace issuing warrants with respect to searches on application by crown attorneys is a matter that has been up front and centre in this assembly as recently as the execution of the search warrants in the matter of Litton Systems and the police in the pursuit of their investigation into that matter, and again with respect to the search warrants obtained something over a year ago that resulted in the massive police raid on the Church of Scientology and the taking away of some 900 cases of material.

These are men who are vested under our system with very significant and substantial positions to play. We should get to a point where (a) they are independent; (b) they are properly remunerated on a uniform scale in accordance with their years of service; (c) there is an adequate and proper training facility and program for training, retraining and continuing education of the justices of the peace, and a method by which the fee for service is abolished, except if that method is used to provide for funds going into the consolidated revenue fund as in many other branches of the administration of the justice system.

Those things are all in the report. I only express a sort of political sense of frustration about this creeping and incremental method which the Attorney General disguises as being real progress. I do not think it is beyond the wit of the members of his staff in the policy development field or in any other field to get on with the business of a revised, updated Justices of the Peace Act, and an adequate, fair and proper transitional system for the retirement of those who may not be qualified to continue in office.

I was surprised, as I am sure others were, that there are about 800 around the province who can perform varying degrees of duties and responsibilities. I do not believe we can rely on an emasculated position of the justice of the peace. I think it is a fundamental bottom layer of the justice system and those who hold those offices deserve dignity, standing and respect within the judicial system itself, let alone in the eyes of the public.

I do not know how long we would have had to wait had there not been a Charter of Rights that led to the challenge which led to this bill coming into the assembly. I suppose there are always reasons why the Ministry of the Attorney General is slow. I do not understand it; none of us has ever



understood it. From the time of the McRuer report to the present is a long time for the gestation of the kind of interest and concern by the ministry in this level of the justice system that is so important.

I have not taken upon myself to speak about the second volume of the Mewett report dealing with justices of the peace in remote areas or justices of the peace in native communities. I have not had the opportunity to go north and to study all the implications of Professor Mewett's report. I certainly saw a lot of coverage in the press when the Attorney General himself was there not so long ago dealing with some of the police and justice problems in that part of the province. My colleague the member for Lake Nipigon (Mr. Stokes) is certainly much better qualified than I ever will be to try to bring home to the attention of the Attorney General the inconveniences in that part of Ontario with respect to the administration of justice at that level.

I do want to emphasize the very specific point Professor Mewett made that the native communities to be served are not necessarily and conclusively in remote areas. The largest native community is right here in Metropolitan Toronto, and the services that are required with respect to this community, let alone in other parts of the province, at a time when the question of the recognition of native people's rights is up front and centre for constitutional purposes, would lead us to believe there is an obligation on this government to get on with drafting the kind of legislation that will support the kind of policies, programs and financing that will implement to as large an extent as possible the recommendations that have been made by the three studies to which I have referred.

I close by saying it may well be that to provide this kind of status for that office could be one of the major tributes to the Attorney General before he leaves this place to go wherever else he may go, to Ottawa or elsewhere. To re-establish this office properly in this province would be a model for the administration of justice in any part of the world.

I have said until I am relatively sick and tired of saying it, that so far as the people of Riverdale are concerned the esoteric question of whether the county courts have a \$25,000 jurisdiction or an unlimited jurisdiction and the esoteric question of whether or not the Supreme Court and county courts should be unified are not matters that touch upon their day-to-day lives. But certainly the provincial court system in all of its

ramifications and the office of the justice of the peace are areas that touch upon the ongoing lives of the law-abiding citizens of the great riding of Riverdale in endeavouring to bring to their aid the justice we all believe to be somewhere inherent, although many times difficult to find, in the justice system of Ontario.

As I say, I just wanted to vent my particular frustration about having to deal with this kind of bill. We are not going to oppose the bill and we are certainly not going to ask that the bill go into committee.

With those few remarks, I appreciate the opportunity to communicate to the Attorney General on these matters. As I began, I commend the letters of Junius to Chief Justice Mansfield in England for his light reading.

**4:10 p.m.**

**Mr. Stokes:** Mr. Speaker, I am going to run afoul of you, sir, and I will try to be as brief as I can, because I think the observations I will make with respect to the functions of justices of the peace throughout Ontario, wherever people may choose to live, will be very important.

My colleague the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) made reference to a trip the Attorney General made to the real north of Ontario, journeying up the west side of James Bay and around Cape Henrietta Maria and up to Winisk. I am not sure whether the Attorney General got to Fort Severn. If he did, so much the better. My colleague the member for Riverdale—

**Mr. Piché:** And Attawapiskat and Fort Albany.

**Mr. Stokes:** Pardon?

**Mr. Piché:** That is where I met the minister, at Kashachewan.

**Mr. Stokes:** Did he take the member for Cochrane North (Mr. Piché) to visit those communities and not extend the same courtesy to the member for Lake Nipigon when he visited the most northern community in the province, namely Fort Severn? It was an oversight on the part of the Attorney General, I am sure.

**Mr. Piché:** No, you misunderstand me. I was not with the Attorney General. I met him there. Our paths crossed in Fort Albany.

**Mr. Stokes:** When any minister of the crown visits the real north of Ontario it makes good sense to bring the one person who sits in this Legislature who knows more about the ongoing and real problems of the north—

**Mr. Piché:** Thank you for the compliment.

**Mr. Stokes:** No. The member has a lot to learn, he is a johnny-come-lately. If he wants to



know about the real problems, I would be quite happy to talk to him about them.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Order. Back to the debate.

**Mr. Stokes:** I want to go back to the Report to the Attorney General of Ontario on the Office and Function of the Justices of the Peace in Ontario, part II, Native Communities and Remote Areas. This was authored by Alan Mewett. It was in the hands of the Attorney General on April 2, 1982, two years and a week ago. It took the Attorney General almost two years to get there to see what Professor Mewett was talking about. I know he has a very busy schedule.

I have had communications with the Attorney General on jurisprudence and the way we conduct our courts in northern communities. In fairness to the Attorney General, notwithstanding the work of Stan Jolly and his group, it is only of recent vintage that the natives in the province, particularly those in remote areas, have busied and concerned themselves about the way in which court proceedings go.

This is an excellent report. I do not think I have ever read a better one in terms of putting the real problem of justice in the proper perspective. While I welcome the halting step the Attorney General has taken in appointing Stan Jolly as a special projects co-ordinator to assist the Chief Judge in coming to grips with the problem of justices of the peace, when one looks at the statistics contained in that report, there is only about one full-time justice of the peace dealing wholly and solely with the responsibilities in native communities.

While there are some who are part-time and those who act in a variety of roles, there is not enough to keep them going. They are not being used in an appropriate way. Towards that end, I want to quote a couple of paragraphs of the report:

"Natives (i.e. as I use the term, status Indians, nonstatus Indians and Metis) make up some two per cent of Ontario's total population. The most recent statistics show that natives made up 11 per cent of the total male admissions and 30 per cent of the total female admissions for sentences of less than 30 days, and 17 per cent of the total male admissions and 53 per cent of the total female admissions for liquor offences. Some 20 per cent of male non-native admissions were subsequently released on bail and 21 per cent of non-native female admissions; only 10 per cent native male admissions and nine per cent native female admissions were so released."

Professor Mewett goes on to state the present position of jurisprudence and the way in which we deal with these relatively minor offences. He says:

"It is probably accurate to say that the most serious and least understood part of the adjudicative process that involves natives is not the determination of guilt, but the imposition of the appropriate sanction. Factually, most of these cases are neither difficult nor serious, but finding the right sentence is as important when natives are involved as in any other case, and considerably more complex. This is true whether one is talking about a native justice of the peace sentencing a native on a reserve or a non-native justice of the peace sentencing a native off the reserve. An examination of any of the statistics incontrovertibly shows an inordinately high proportion of natives are incarcerated in our penal institutions—in most cases for what the general public would regard as tending towards the less serious offences. The reasons for this disturbing fact are not easy to discover. It may be because native culture is such that natives more often commit offences; it may be because their social or economic background tends to involve them in criminal activities more than others; it may be because those involved in the sentencing process do not understand the individual needs of native offenders; it may, of course, be because of blatant discrimination. The reasons are not important because whatever the reasons, it must stop. If the causes go deeper than can be remedied by improving the criminal justice system for natives, such as by improving educational opportunities and standards of living for natives, this is no reason why we cannot at least make a start by improving the criminal justice system."

In fairness to the Attorney General and to put it in a proper balance, I want to quote one brief paragraph.

Professor Mewett says: "Lest it be thought that I am singling out Ontario for criticism of its handling of the criminal justice system for native people, it is as well to make it clear that I am far from convinced the situation is any better in any of the other provinces. Indeed, in some cases, it may be far worse."

The Attorney General did journey to those remote communities with a judge. He had an opportunity to see it in action with all its imperfections. Perhaps when the minister responds to our comments on second reading, he might just elaborate a little bit because I am not absolutely convinced the Attorney General could



have done all that should have been done to redress some of these problems.

The Attorney General has had two years to study the Mewett report as it deals with remote communities, particularly native communities, in the hinterlands of Ontario. A lot of the things Stan Jolly will be doing in his new position will be to second-guess what Professor Mewett said.

**4:20 p.m.**

One of the main thrusts of the Mewett report was, first of all, an acceptance by the government and the chief law officer of the crown of the fact that we need justices of the peace in those remote communities; not only because native people have to see that their leaders are an integral part of the justice system in Ontario, they have to see them taking an active part in it instead of having people fly in on a regular basis or flying the culprits out and having them go through routine proceedings covering offences of a very minor nature elsewhere. If there is anything that will frustrate a group in society, it is the way we have handled these very numerous yet very minor offences, which are not really criminal in nature but which are offences that our first citizens do get caught up in.

I think it is important to listen very carefully to what Professor Mewett says. If you agree with the conclusions he has arrived at, it is absolutely essential that native people get involved in the system. If we accept that fact, then a corollary to it is that we must make it possible for native people to become sufficiently familiar with the Criminal Code and with all of the other statutes and minor offences under the Liquor Control Act, whether they be bylaws enforced under the Indian Act or bylaws imposed by a band council where, to maintain some semblance of order, somebody has to be there to do the enforcing.

I have no idea how many millions of dollars it costs us as taxpayers to do what we are doing to bring culprits to justice. I know it costs us a bundle to maintain the kind of surveillance and police presence we have in the flying police force we have stationed in places like Timmins, I believe it is, in northeastern Ontario, and in Kenora and Sioux Lookout in northwestern Ontario.

Similarly, I have no idea how much it costs the system, and therefore us taxpayers, either to fly the judiciary in there to try these relatively minor cases or, conversely, to fly those people charged out to some place like Sioux Lookout, Geraldton, Kenora, Timmins or Moosonee. I know it costs us a lot of money, and I do not think the system works well.

I have not had an opportunity to discuss this with Stan Jolly; I have not had an opportunity to discuss it privately with the Attorney General. But it seems to me that, given just an excellent report, which has been in the hands of the Attorney General for more than two years, it is not enough simply to have taken one halting step and say, "We are going to appoint Stan Jolly to assist one of the judges to look at the implications of this report," and not to have gone much farther than that and to involve band councils in a much more direct way.

I am not going to suggest that we should have a justice of the peace appointed for every little hamlet or Indian reserve in the north. But let me say that I hope we will get the process finely tuned enough so we can find those native people who are most capable of getting involved in this kind of system. I hope the minister just does not go the purely political route, because I do not think it will work in those circumstances; he has to get advice from the best people possible to attract the best people possible.

One of the recommendations was to consult with the band councils. Professor Mewett even suggests that the Attorney General might want to go so far as to consult with the member of the Legislative Assembly who represents that area. I am not saying that in a partisan way. He has to make use of all the knowledge and experience he can get hold of to make the system work in the way in which we all hope it will.

Even on a trial basis, I would ask the Attorney General to say, "All right, let us try to appoint somebody from Fort Albany, from Fort Hope, from Big Trout Lake or from Sandy Lake, where the numbers of people resident and the number of satellite communities close by would warrant the appointment of native justices of the peace, at least on a trial basis to see how the system works."

It is going to require a lot of patience on our part, it is going to require a lot of education and it is going to require a good deal of innovation. The Attorney General has been up there and has had a good length of time to study the Mewett report, which everybody speaks highly of. It is an excellent place to start.

I am not going to dwell on the question, but we have sufficient evidence to prove that the status quo is no longer acceptable. The whole process has to be meaningful to our first citizens so that the system of justice not only is fair but also is seen to be fair. The Attorney General is going to get a much greater degree of acceptance and co-operation from those people if he involves



them in a very significant and meaningful way. I think the Attorney General has the basis for it here in the report. In talking privately with him, I have found he has convinced himself that the status quo is no longer acceptable and something must be done, so I am right back to where I started.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your indulgence, because normally on second reading one cannot discuss something not in the bill but only something in the bill. I think the bill is deficient because we have had sufficient time to study the thing; now is the time for action. I thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for your patience and indulgence.

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to read the Mewett report some time ago when it was made available to us, and I was impressed by it.

I am curious, as my colleague the member for Riverdale was curious, about why the majority of the recommendations from the Mewett report have not been incorporated in the bill before us. I would hope that I could at least raise this question with the Attorney General during second reading debate so we do not have to send the bill to committee to pursue it at length.

I want to raise the question specifically of why the Attorney General has not chosen to deal with the matter of appointments to the office of justice of the peace. The Attorney General will recall that Professor Mewett has made a number of very helpful suggestions with respect to the appointment process. I am referring to pages 69 and 70 of the report.

**4:30 p.m.**

Professor Mewett points out, first, that it is hard to get the best candidate coming forward for the office of justice of the peace when nobody knows there is a vacancy in the first place. One of the very sensible recommendations the Mewett report makes is that applications for vacancies be advertised. This is surely not a staggering reform notion. The notion that vacancies should be advertised is not something that should threaten the government.

Professor Mewett states on page 69, "The plain fact of the matter is that so long as proposed appointments are mooted by word of mouth, the opportunity to apply tends to be limited only to those who are in the know and they tend to be limited to friends or associates of those making the initial input." It is fairly clear what Professor Mewett is saying, and his suggestion is entirely sensible.

Second, he sets out procedures for making appointments to the office that would stand us in good stead. As I understand the suggestion, the local senior provincial court judge would make the preliminary determination with respect to whether there is a vacancy and whether there is a need in a particular area. This would be reviewed with other officers of the court within the judicial system and then relayed to the associate chief judge. There would be advertising and some publicity. People would have the opportunity to apply for any vacancies that had been determined.

Third, there would be a much more independent selection process, which would involve the associate chief judge making recommendations in a review to the Justices of the Peace Review Council. Let me read Professor Mewett's observation on the current process and why he is recommending a change.

"Some such scheme"—that is, the scheme he is proposing—"seems to me to be the best way of ensuring that the ultimate decision to appoint remains with the cabinet (through the Attorney General) but also of ensuring that political input never becomes undue and that every effort is made to find the most suitable person, though the success of such a scheme will very much depend on there being adequate training and education programs that I shall discuss in the next section." And he goes on to make very helpful suggestions with respect to upgrading the office through education and training.

We have here a bill that establishes security of tenure for justices of the peace. The present method of appointment, which is essentially a patronage method of appointment, remains intact. As I understand it, the selection process continues to involve "political input," to use the words of Professor Mewett. It is passing strange that the government has chosen to ignore his recommendations for a more independent appointment process. The Attorney General does not like any kind of discussion that involves ways and means of making appointments to the judicial system more independent and free of "undue political input."

The day when these kinds of decisions can be left to the Lieutenant Governor in Council are coming to an end, if I may offer an unlettered lay view. The sooner this government realizes that, the better; and the sooner it adopts the very sensible and straightforward suggestions set out in the Mewett report, the better. Then the concern so often expressed with respect to the



appointment of justices of the peace can be laid to rest.

If the Attorney General does not think most people think justices of the peace are political appointees, he lives in some kind of fools' paradise. It is the popular view of the office. Everybody knows that. It is part of the law and mythology of Ontario after a single party has been in office for 40 years. If the Attorney General thinks this popular understanding of a key component of the judicial system does anything in aid of respect for the law, he lives in a different world from mine.

My question, which I hope he will address in his reply at the conclusion of this debate, is why has he apparently failed to accept the recommendations of the Mewett report? Perhaps I misunderstand and he intends at some point in the future, I hope in the near future, to bring in a more comprehensive bill. Perhaps he could share his plans with us, because I think the reforms recommended in the Mewett report are long overdue and would be enthusiastically supported by all sides in this House.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** It would appear that some of the members opposite were not in the House when I introduced this legislation, because I indicated clearly we were going to introduce, and I am quoting from my statement, "a complete revision of the Justices of the Peace Act later this session." That was clearly stated. I regret some of the members were, I guess, absent for that statement.

The Mewett report of two volumes is a very important report. Long before the Charter of Rights came into existence, I asked Mr. Alan Mewett to do a careful report in relation to the justices of the peace system as a whole, recognizing as we all do that the justices of the peace system represents a very important component of the administration of justice in this province.

The number of recommendations was significant and far-reaching. There has been a careful analysis of those recommendations. As I indicated when I introduced this legislation for first reading, this represents only a first step. Comprehensive legislation will be introduced later in the session.

There were some references to the slowness with which the policy development division of the Ministry of the Attorney General operates. I would like to state emphatically that the record of the productivity of that branch of my ministry proves quite the opposite. I doubt that the policy development branch of any ministry of justice in

the English-speaking world has produced as much important reform legislation as this branch has. It certainly has done so during the eight and a half years I have been privileged to serve with the very able individuals who comprise the policy development division. Their record in relation to important law reform is truly outstanding. I do not think there is any branch anywhere that can come close to it.

**4:40 p.m.**

With respect to the importance of the justices of the peace system to native justice in this province, I concur with most of the comments made by the member for Lake Nipigon. The native justice system in this country is clearly in an unsatisfactory state. Obviously, as a society we have not effectively come to grips with the challenges facing native justice in our province.

As important as the visits of the court party are to these various—some very remote—communities, they do not provide an adequate understanding of their justice systems on a day-to-day basis. This is something many of the ministry people have been wrestling with for a long time. I do not think there is any doubt that Stan Jolly's involvement in the process is very crucial to any likelihood of success.

I agree with the member for Lake Nipigon that the status quo is totally unsatisfactory. Mr. Jolly is not working with just "another judge," as the member for Lake Nipigon may have made reference to, but is, in fact, working directly with the Chief Judge of the provincial court, criminal division. His mandate is to develop the system. He is working directly and is in daily contact with the Chief Judge of the provincial court, criminal division, of our province.

Mr. Jolly would welcome, without question, any input the member for Lake Nipigon would like to give as we pursue the development of the native justice system. I will communicate with Mr. Jolly the desirability of his meeting with the member for Lake Nipigon. I would hope such a meeting could take place very soon. Mr. Jolly's door, as the member for Lake Nipigon can appreciate, would always be open to him to discuss any of these issues.

The solutions in the area of native justice are not going to be easily found. I recognize the more direct involvement of the native community in the justice system is a prerequisite. Native justices of the peace are a very vital initiative if we are going to make any progress in this area. This will remain a high priority, quite apart from the more comprehensive legislation that will be dealing with justices of the peace generally with



respect to appointment as well as all the other matters that are so important to the justices of the peace system.

I hope we will make some very significant progress in the area of native justices of the peace in the months ahead. I look forward to further discussions in this area.

Motion agreed to.

Bill ordered for third reading.

House in committee of the whole.

### COURTS OF JUSTICE ACT

Consideration of Bill 100, An Act to revise and consolidate the Law respecting the Organization, Operation and Proceedings of Courts of Justice in Ontario.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Bill 100 is now before us. Is there any particular section we would like to begin with?

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, the only sections, in so far as I am aware, in which there were some outstanding comments to be made on my part were sections 61, 88 and 91. A variety of other items had been attended to in committee, and members will see in the bill before us many amendments that have been sorted out and dealt with in committee.

There were just those three outstanding matters to be discussed in so far as I was concerned; with one further addition, and that is with respect to section 208, the matter of the Quieting Titles Act. It is just on those four items that I will have any comment. It may be that the sections before section 61 can otherwise go quite quickly.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Can sections 1 to 60, inclusive, then carry? Is that the agreement?

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Chairman, very briefly, I personally said all I can or want to say about the bill in committee. The bill had a thorough canvassing at that time. I do not have any sections I feel compelled to speak on in this committee of the whole House.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to make just a few comments on part II of the bill, District Court of Ontario, starting with section 25.

Sections 1 to 24, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 25:

**Mr. Roy:** Some of the comments I have to make I have made in relation to Bill 1 about the merger of the courts. What I have to say I have said before in committee during the estimates of the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry). In fact, I may have made some comments on this bill

before it went off to committee, and the committee has had the benefit of certain submissions made by a variety of law associations, among them the proposal from the County of Carleton Law Association.

My comments are related basically to a proposal made by the County of Carleton Law Association on the subject of the merger of the High Court of Justice and the county and district courts of Ontario. I want to emphasize again in these very brief comments that when I talk about merger and about the work done by our county or district court judges and when I talk about the Supreme Court, in no way do I want to demean or undermine, nor do I have any reservations about, the competence and the effectiveness of the members of the High Court in Ontario.

In Ontario the Attorney General has said, and I have supported him on this, we are very fortunate to have very competent people serving at all levels, and certainly at the Supreme Court level. We in Ottawa-Carleton, and I am sure my colleagues in other counties would agree with me, have received excellent service and we are fortunate to have very competent people serving or adjudicating at that level.

If I have any comments to make about merger of the courts and the county courts and if I emphasize jurisdiction and things of this nature, I want to make it very clear I have nothing but the highest regard and the greatest respect for the members of the High Court in Ontario.

4:50 p.m.

Some of the comments I have to make date back to my very early days of practice. It struck me at the time, even going back to the late 1960s, that the distinction that existed in our courts between the county court and the High Court was not necessary.

I know the Attorney General has said that when the administration of justice serves the community as well as it has in Ontario, one must be cautious about making changes, radical changes or changes for just change's sake, but I think it is important that the public of Ontario perceive and understand the administration of justice in this province.

It is very difficult sometimes to explain to the public of Ontario our system of courts, our division of courts and things of this nature. I know there has been an attempt over the last 10 years.

**Mr. Mancini:** It is impossible.

**Mr. Roy:** My colleague tells me it is impossible. It should not be impossible. He is probably right in that the public of Ontario would



have great difficulty in understanding the different divisions of the court.

**Mr. Boudria:** Ninety per cent of the members would not know.

**Mr. Roy:** For instance, if it is a particular criminal case, then it may be dealt with in a provincial court with criminal jurisdiction. If it deals with children or something similar, it may end up in the family court. If it is a more serious case, then it may be dealt with in the county court with or without a jury. If it is more serious than that, if it is a murder case at this level or if it is treason or something similar, then it goes to the High Court. I am talking now about criminal jurisdiction.

If it is under civil jurisdiction, it will depend on the type of case. If it is just monetary, it could be dealt with in small claims court, county court or in the Supreme Court, the High Court as we call it.

I understand there are reasons for some of these divisions. It is important to build up an expertise to be able to deal effectively with different problems—family, criminal or civil. I understand that, but in my opinion such a distinction does not have to be made. I think the distinction between the county court and the Supreme Court or the High Court is not necessary.

In the early days of justice in this province, with the talent available, the competence of a local judge, or the issues that were involved locally, I could understand it was important that the administration of justice appeared to be impartial. This was the reason circuit judges were travelling around and administering justice in different areas.

But I ask the Attorney General, does it make sense in Ontario in 1984? A \$30,000 motor vehicle accident case may involve a relatively serious whiplash with some permanent injury, but the insurance lawyer will say to the county court judge, "It is past your jurisdiction." He will bump it up to the Supreme Court because it will delay it some more.

At that point he says, "The adjudication for this particular case has got to come from Toronto." The judge has to go and sit during the limited sessions. Be it in L'Orignal, Waterloo or London, Ontario, he is going to come down and adjudicate on those cases.

**Mr. Boudria:** He is going to descend from Toronto upon L'Orignal.

**Mr. Roy:** In some ways that process is not only demeaning to the county court, but it is sometimes demeaning to the Supreme Court.

Sometimes that does not happen. To the great credit of many of the judges, both at the county court and at the Supreme Court level, they are not adjudicating those cases because they are being settled by way of a pre-trial, etc.

The fact remains that we continue to have these artificial divisions which, in many cases, are abused by certain members of the profession. I am talking about lawyers acting on behalf of insurance companies and corporations, who will always say, "It is a High Court jurisdiction case and we have to put it up there." The motivation for doing it sometimes is that it is delayed and sometimes the fees are higher. One reports back to one's client and says: "This is a High Court matter and, of course, the fees are higher. It is far more complex and we have to wait for the judge to come from Toronto."

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** You would know that.

**Mr. Roy:** Of course. I am always representing the poor and disenfranchised. I am most often on the plaintiff's side. The Minister of Health (Mr. Norton) will know that. When I get some time, I will explain to him how the process works because I know he did not spend much time around the courts. He managed to get himself a QC.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Oh, I spent most of my time around the courts.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** He spends his time here now, unlike you.

**Mr. Roy:** Do I hear the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) saying something? Would she like to participate?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Just a little echo of your conscience.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Things were going along so well.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I find it absolutely delicious to have some intervention from the Minister of Education who is an expert on all matters, including justice, law or whatever.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** All I was suggesting is that you know so much about the courts because you still spend so much time there, Mondays and Fridays.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** And Wednesdays.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Wednesdays too.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order. The member has the floor and is speaking to Bill 100. Bill 100 is the subject of debate, not these other subjects that are coming up extraneously.



**Mr. Roy:** In response to the Minister of Education, I say I have taken my professional responsibilities seriously. It is true I know what goes on in the courts and how the administration of the courts works because I think it is important as a member of the Legislature to know what is going on.

I do not quibble with the Minister of Education for having practised medicine. I do not criticize her for that, just as I do not criticize my colleague the Minister of Health for having obtained a QC and having practised for a very limited period of time. It shows.

**The Deputy Chairman:** The member is talking to section 25 of Bill 100, please.

**Mr. Roy:** I quite understand that some of those members get annoyed when I am often not prepared to waste my time listening to their dull speeches when I am working in my riding.

**The Deputy Chairman:** We are not talking to section 25.

**Mr. Roy:** Some of us understand that one has to work in one's riding and spend some time in the riding. We like our ridings. If members here think I am going to apologize for that, I am not.

**The Deputy Chairman:** All I ask is that the member speak to section 25 of Bill 100.

**Mr. Breagh:** Come on, Mr. Chairman, soar with the eagles.

**The Deputy Chairman:** It is hard to soar with the eagles all the time.

**Mr. Sweeney:** Especially when there are so many turkeys around.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I know they are giving you a very difficult time about turkeys, eagles and things of that nature, but I will not because I am talking about justice here.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Section 25, yes.

**Mr. Roy:** The point I was trying to make—

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Tell us why you are not supporting your francophone candidate for the federal leadership. That is what I want to hear.

**Mr. Roy:** The potential federal candidate asked me a question; I am referring to the Attorney General now. I would like to respond because I can see the concern from the Mulroney crowd about the fact that John Turner is coming on the scene. They are quivering and there is concern. Brian is getting annoyed, he is becoming concerned and he is criticizing Turner.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** The latest Gallup poll really upset us.

**Mr. Roy:** Keep looking at the polls and enjoying them because they are going to change and change quickly.

**5 p.m.**

**Mr. Stokes:** On a point of order, Mr. Chairman: Could I bring to the attention of the members the fact that we have already had second reading of this bill and we are now dealing with clause-by-clause consideration of the bill in committee? If the member for Ottawa East (Mr. Roy) chose to be absent during second reading, I do not think he should impose irrelevancies on the committee as a whole. It is an abuse of the House.

**The Deputy Chairman:** I thank the honourable member and appreciate his guidance to the House. Perhaps the member for Ottawa East will now proceed to complete his remarks on section 25.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I do not need a lesson on parliamentary democracy from the member for Lake Nipigon (Mr. Stokes). If he is not able to understand my comments, or if he did not understand them when I made them on second reading, that is his problem. I have certain things to say on section 25 and I intend to say them.

**The Deputy Chairman:** It is your right to say them.

**Mr. Roy:** That is right. I do not need any lesson in parliamentary decorum or democracy from that member. He should not get carried away.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order. We are now back at section 25.

**Mr. Roy:** If he wants to preach, he should go and talk to some of the electorate, if there are any left who would vote for the New Democratic Party. He should not try to give us a lesson.

I was attempting to respond to the Attorney General—

Interjections.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Please do not be distracted by these irrelevancies.

**Mr. Roy:** No, I will not be.

In response to the Attorney General's question, if he wants to sit in the opposition he had better run federally. That is all I want to say to him.

The point I was making is that there exists a distinction between the county court and the Supreme Court. This distinction in 1984 Ontario is no longer justified. We would have some difficulty explaining to the electorate of this



province why, if we give certain judges jurisdiction to hear cases involving robbery, rape or other serious criminal matters, they are not able to hear a case involving a monetary jurisdiction of more than \$25,000.

We are also saying to all jurisdictions outside Ontario that in cases involving monetary jurisdiction of more than \$25,000 they are going to have to wait for a Supreme Court judge to come in and try the case, because if it involves another type of issue it goes on the Supreme Court list and they have to wait until the judges come in.

The citizens of Ontario and many members of the profession, especially those outside Ontario, do not understand this and feel the distinction between courts should not continue. In that light, there have been submissions made by a variety of law associations, among others the Carleton County Law Association. They propose simply that the High Court would be merged with the county and district courts of Ontario, and the new court would be called the Supreme Court of Ontario. That appears to be a reasonable proposal.

They go on to say all county and district court judges would become members of the Supreme Court of Ontario and the Supreme Court of Ontario would have unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction. The Supreme Court of Ontario would have three divisions: the Queen's Bench division, comprising all judges at present serving as county and district judges in Ontario; the High Court of Justice, comprising all judges currently serving as High Court judges in Ontario; and the Court of Appeal, comprising all judges currently serving at that court.

Then they propose there would be eight judicial districts within which what they call the Court of Queen's Bench would sit. They would divide the eight districts. Their brief goes on to say the existing status quo relating to residence of the judges would be preserved. The jurisdiction basically would be as follows. Judges of the Queen's Bench division would have unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction, save and except jurisdiction in Divisional Court matters, prerogative writs and special trials.

Then they make a distinction that the division of the High Court of Justice would enjoy jurisdiction over all Divisional Court matters, prerogative writs and special trials. This court would maintain its headquarters at Osgoode Hall and, through a time of attrition, would reduce its numbers to 35 or 40.

Their jurisdiction would then be basically limited to matters or appeals that are now dealt

with by the Divisional Court. Rather than having judges travel from the High Court in Toronto to L'Orignal, Ottawa-Carleton, London, Windsor or wherever, we would have judges with unlimited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters who would operate within a restricted area in a district. In my opinion, that proposal would make more sense in Ontario in 1984 than the present system.

I understand the Attorney General has some problems with that process. Obviously, judges are not unanimous on this proposal. There is still great objection on the part of certain judges even at the county court level to this process of merger. But when making such sweeping proposals as we do in Bill 100, I think this would have been an opportunity to wipe out the monetary jurisdiction and probably the criminal jurisdiction as well.

The distinction is so finite now. The High Court takes murder trials, treason and a few other serious criminal matters. The great bulk of criminal cases are taken by county court judges anyway.

The presidents of most of the county associations have supported this proposal of the Carleton county bar. I think the process would be more effective, easier for the public to understand and, in the long run, to the benefit of the administration of justice in this province.

I ask my colleagues to look at the setup that exists now. In many counties, and I can talk about Ottawa-Carleton, the county court list is right up to date. In the Supreme Court, one has to wait a year or a year and a half to be heard. I understand in London, Ontario, the county court list is also right up to date.

Take a county town like L'Orignal. There may be seven or eight cases on the Supreme Court list waiting to be heard. The judge comes down for a week and there is a murder trial. That takes care of the week. You will have to wait four months to be heard. When the four months roll around, if there happens to be another serious court matter, you are not heard again. The system goes on.

I really do not think an area like that is well served with this present system. It would be better served with a merger of the courts and a system whereby the judges would operate within a limited district. It would be far more effective.

This proposal has not received the attention or the consideration it deserves. Just upping the jurisdiction of the county court to \$25,000 and taking some of the work away from the Supreme Court is not really a meaningful attempt to advance the efficiency of the administration of



justice. I think these proposals merit the attention of the Attorney General and require far more serious consideration than they have received.

Having made these few brief comments, I have nothing else to add on part II, District Court of Ontario.

**5:10 p.m.**

**Mr. Breithaupt:** I do not know whether the Attorney General has any comment to make with respect to the observations—

**The Deputy Chairman:** I gave the Attorney General an opportunity and he had finger movements.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** A variety of finger movements might not likely translate too well for the benefit of Hansard, Mr. Chairman.

**The Deputy Chairman:** That was his response, I think.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** If that was the response, we will have to take it as that.

Section 25 agreed to.

Sections 26 to 60, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 61:

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, I am interested in particular in subsection 61(2). The additions of clauses (a) and (b) appear to me to be redundant. I would have thought this subsection could read as follows. "A provincial judge shall not exercise jurisdiction conferred on a magistrate under part XVI of the Criminal Code Canada unless the judge is so designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council."

The rewording of the section in that light would remove clauses (a) and (b). It was my understanding in committee that suggestion had been accepted and that it was seen those two items were redundant. The designation under section 61 allows the provincial judge to deal with the matters set out before the portion of the Criminal Code that deals with indictable offences.

I thought we had cleared this matter up; I may have been in error in that. I thought there was an acknowledgement by the staff of the Attorney General that those two clauses could very readily be struck out in favour of the simple statement that designation would be required in order for a provincial judge to deal with the indictable offences portion of the Criminal Code.

Perhaps the Attorney General might comment on why it seems necessary to leave in those two clauses. It may be only a drafting suggestion on my part, but I thought it made for a somewhat more easily read and understood subsection.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** I do not think there is any agreement to delete them. An argument could be made that they could be deleted. What we are trying to do is to provide assurance to the community as a whole that the few existing judges who are not lawyers must have at least five years' experience as judges before they try indictable offences. We just want to make that very clear.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** We are underlining that requirement and acknowledging that designation is also necessary.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Yes.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** I can accept that. I thought it was perhaps unnecessary to put it in. If the Attorney General feels that underlines the experience factor and highlights that somewhat, then I am prepared to accept it.

Section 61 agreed to.

**The Deputy Chairman:** The next item to be raised by the member for Kitchener was—

**Mr. Breithaupt:** The next item was section 88.

**Mr. Cassidy:** I do not profess to be learned in all matters legal, but I would like to comment on sections 78, 135 and 146, and not all at the same time.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Which sections were those?

**Mr. Cassidy:** Sections 78, 135 and 146.

Sections 62 to 77, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 78:

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, I would just like to speak as a member for the Ottawa area. I gather it has been about three years since the experiment with the provincial court, civil division, in Metropolitan Toronto began. That has enabled small claims cases of up to \$3,000 to be heard here. As the minister knows, that is a more accessible form of justice; certainly, the \$1,000 limit which was set originally many years ago has been far overtaken by inflation. It does not, for example, amount to more than a couple of months of rent in many apartments in the Ottawa area. I can give all kinds of other examples and I am sure the minister could as well.

Could the minister provide some assurance as to when this change will be implemented in the county of Carleton with respect to an increase in the limit on claims of up to \$3,000? If no timetable has been set for that, can he explain why people in Ottawa-Carleton are somehow



deemed not to be competent to do what people in the judicial district of York are permitted to do?

**Mr. Roy:** May I just make a comment on that, Mr. Chairman, before the Attorney General responds? The County of Carleton Law Association brief suggested the monetary jurisdiction of the small claims court be increased to \$5,000. I would think that would not be unreasonable.

Again, there is a process in this province whereby the Attorney General is appointing competent people to adjudicate at that level. He has done so in his appointment in Ottawa-Carleton. Judge Tierney is presiding over the small claims court there. I have no doubt this individual would certainly be competent enough to adjudicate on claims of up to \$5,000. Judge Tierney's practice, and I knew him when he was in practice, involved cases which exceeded the \$1,000 monetary jurisdiction he is limited to now. One of the ways to expedite the administration of justice would be for the Attorney General to increase the monetary jurisdiction of the small claims court.

I really do think the experiment in Toronto, as my colleague the member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) has said, should be sufficient evidence to take the experiment now to other areas of Ontario and even to go a step further and increase that jurisdiction. By and large, there is one thing to be said about the small claims court, and that is the procedure is at least very summary and is a much cheaper procedure to collect moneys than the cumbersome process of the county court where one has to go now. It is getting to a point where, if one proceeds through the whole process of the county court for a claim of anywhere between \$1,000 and \$5,000, the plaintiff risks losing a good part of his claim in legal fees to collect these moneys.

I think that proposal of the County of Carleton Law Association deserves serious consideration.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** The points made by the members opposite are very valid ones, Mr. Chairman. It had been my hope we would have been able to extend the provincial court, civil division, project throughout the province and I am disappointed we have not yet been able to obtain the appropriate resources to do so. Certainly, I would agree that in many centres we should have the provincial court, civil division, with the higher jurisdiction.

As to the designation "small claims court," I do not think to most citizens even today claims of more than \$1,000 can be necessarily thought of as small claims, but perhaps that is too much of a subjective observation. I would say to the

member for Ottawa Centre and to the member for Ottawa East, if we do not at least announce an intention this spring to expand the provincial court, civil division, which is sort of a version of the small claims court, with this greater accessibility, if we do not make some decision to do that this spring, then an increase from the \$1,000 limit in the jurisdiction of the small claims court should be given a high priority. I am very supportive of what has just been said.

**5:20 p.m.**

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, on this specific point, I have not been involved with the justice committee on this, but I am afraid the proposal here is deficient to some extent. Like other pieces of legislation with specific sums in them, they very quickly become overtaken by changing values.

That is an unfortunate fact. I cannot imagine when the \$1,000 limit on the small claims court was set, but I suspect it could well have been 10 or 15 years ago. The original intention of the \$1,000 limit was to have it much higher in real terms today than it actually is.

It costs a bare minimum of perhaps \$500, and more likely \$1,000 or more, to have a lawyer consider a suit and then take the matter into court. Since that is real money that has to be paid—it is not contingent money and cannot be, according to the practice of the bar in this province—what the minister is doing by delaying is effectively denying access to judicial decision-making with respect to claims for a lot of working people whose incomes are perhaps \$15,000, \$20,000 or \$30,000 a year, and for whom \$1,500, \$2,500 or \$3,500 is not a trivial amount.

They may find they cannot take it to the small claims court because it is too much, and they will find they literally cannot afford or justify the time, the expense, the anguish and the delays involved in taking the matter to the provincial court.

Not only that, but it may be a matter of two or three years. When they learn that from the lawyer, they may simply pay the guy or gal \$100 and walk out in disgust. The legal system has passed into disrepute because of that.

I respond in this way because the minister says we either will go one way or might give serious consideration to raising the limit. Three years of experimentation in Metropolitan Toronto is surely enough time. The minister at the very least should be able to make a specific commitment that before this House rises in June, either we will have the provincial court, civil division, implemented in Ottawa-Carleton or there will be an



increase in the jurisdiction of the small claims court that exists there at least to the \$3,000 limit that applies in Toronto.

If the minister does not do that, then the government is basically saying what it has said on so many other cases for so long, that in Ontario there is one rule for Metropolitan Toronto and another rule for everywhere else.

Section 78 agreed to.

Sections 79 to 87, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 88:

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, I want to discuss with the Attorney General the matter of the Ontario Provincial Courts Committee and the comments placed before the justice committee by Mr. Paul J. French of the firm Stephens, French and McKeown, barristers and solicitors, here in Toronto. The Attorney General will be aware that Mr. French is the counsel to the Provincial Judges Association of Ontario, criminal division, and to the Ontario Family Court Judges' Association.

It is necessary for me to quote somewhat at length from a letter which Mr. French has sent to us, because he has made three particular references to the subsections in section 88. Subsections 1, 2 and 3 are each referred to with a particular suggestion for an amendment which Mr. French believes would be useful for the committee of the whole to consider.

Mr. French writes in part as follows:

"As you may be aware, the determination of financial issues affecting provincial court judges has always been a sensitive area. This sensitivity exists by reason of the historical and constitutional position of the judiciary as forming one of the three divisions to which the power of the state is divided. The judiciary are recognized as having separate and autonomous power in the judicial realm, just as truly as do the executive and legislative branches. In recognition of the need to preserve the independence of the judges in the exercise of those powers, and in recognition of the need to avoid the appearance of affecting that independence through financial matters, there has evolved the Ontario Provincial Courts Committee.

"Prior to 1973, the remuneration provided to provincial court judges was negotiated directly with the Attorney General. In recognition of the apparent conflict of those negotiations with the principle of independence of the judiciary, the Attorney General was relieved of that responsibility and negotiation was then with the Management Board of Cabinet. That process was also found to fit uncomfortably with the principle of judicial

independence and so the mandate was entrusted to the Ontario Provincial Courts Committee. It was created by order in council dated March 8, 1980, and empowered to inquire into and make recommendations with respect to the numerous financial issues affecting provincial court judges.

"The creation of the Ontario Provincial Courts Committee was an act of the executive. In order to further enshrine the principle of the independence of the judiciary it was proposed that the Ontario Provincial Courts Committee become a statutory body reporting to the Legislative Assembly. Thus, An Act respecting the Benefits of Provincial Judges and Masters was laid before the assembly on December 1, 1983."

In the letter Mr. French attaches a copy of that order in council to which I have referred and a copy of the statement made by the Attorney General with respect to that act. Mr. French then refers further to that Provincial Courts Act and notes that it is effectively the same as the present section 88 of Bill 100 as it has been reprinted and is before the committee at present.

He then deals with three particular themes. It might be convenient if I set out his comments with respect to each of the three areas in these subsections, then I expect we can deal with the entire section as a whole once we have had the benefit of the Attorney General's comments as to the usefulness of the suggestions Mr. French has made.

Mr. Chairman, if you look at subsection 88(1), you will see this committee is composed of three persons. One is an appointee of the various judges' associations, the second is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and the third is a chairman to be appointed and acceptable to both the other two. Mr. French reminds us that Mr. Edward Greenspan, QC, is the nominee of the various judges' associations, and Mr. Robert Carman is the nominee appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The chairman, by joint recommendation, is Mr. Alan Marchment.

The suggestion made with respect to the matter of the appointment of the person by the Lieutenant Governor in Council is this. Mr. French suggests that clause 88(1)(b) should read as follows: "(b) one shall be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council who is not an employee of, or under contract to, the provincial government; and..."

Mr. French then goes on as follows: "While Mr. Carman is a most able individual, any nominee of the Lieutenant Governor in Council who is at the same time a civil servant must be in an uncomfortable position. While the obligation



is on the one hand to bring an independent judgement to bear upon a financial problem, the obligation of such a nominee must, on the other hand, be to avoid any conflict with the wishes of the executive. The independence of the committee, and the appearance of the independence of the committee, would be more completely secured through relieving the nominee of the government from the possibility of such a conflict. I am sure that, were Mr. Carman himself be consulted in this issue, he would agree with this suggestion."

**5:30 p.m.**

The point made by Mr. French is a fairly simple and direct one in that the appointee of the Lieutenant Governor in Council could and should, I think it is fair to say, be someone who is not receiving his or her daily bread from the same persons who appointed him or her to that position.

Accordingly, the first suggestion that is made is to expand that subsection to ensure there is no seeming bias, obligation or difficulty in the person acting because of other ties to the provincial government, either by employment or contract. That suggestion is made, and I think it is worthy of some consideration.

The second suggestion deals with subsection 2. It is simply the inclusion in the third line, after "Lieutenant Governor in Council," of the word "annually." The purpose of that suggested amendment is to avoid any problems in failing to make a recommendation that might be useful on any urgent matter.

Mr. French goes on as follows:

"For almost two years now, the Ontario Provincial Courts Committee has been considering the matter of appropriate pension arrangements for the provincial court judges. As you may be aware, judges are typically appointed to the provincial court at the average age of 43. In such circumstances it is impossible for them to ever attain full entitlement to a pension under a plan such as the public service superannuation fund. It is important to provide arrangements for pensions sufficient to secure for the provincial judges a reasonable income in retirement. This need arises not only in order that the incumbents might be relieved of financial distractions in rendering judgements but also in order that the province might continue to attract the best men and women possible to the position."

He then refers to further areas of detail that I do not think we have to enter into at this point.

The purpose of adding the word "annually" in the second suggested amendment he makes

would, as he says, "hopefully impose an obligation on the committee to deal more speedily with such urgent problems." Those problems might arise from time to time. Having the word "annually" in there, I suggest, might be useful for the functioning of the committee.

The third item referred to deals with subsection 3 by the addition of two words in the second line, which reads at the present time, "an annual report of its activities to the Lieutenant Governor in Council." It would add the words "and recommendations" after the word "activities."

The reason for that suggested change is as follows: "The purpose of this suggested amendment is to avoid the problem of recommendations to the committee being ignored." In addition to adding the words "and recommendations," he has a further reference that would be an amendment that would read "and such report and recommendations shall then stand referred to the standing committee on the administration of justice."

He cites the situation on January 30, 1981, where "the committee made a recommendation with respect to remuneration for provincial court judges. Delivery of this unanimous recommendation has never been acknowledged by the government. The proposed changes would provide the hoped for result," if certain recommendations had to go before the standing committee on administration of justice as the result of an automatic referral.

These are the three suggestions. I would appreciate hearing the Attorney General's response to them.

If I may recapitulate, the first is that the person appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council should not be an employee or under contract to the province. The second is to ensure under subsection 2 that the reports are made annually. The third is to ensure that the activities and recommendations would be dealt with by the presumption of an automatic referral to the standing committee on administration of justice of this Legislature.

I would appreciate the comments of the Attorney General on those three points so that if they are accepted, as I hope, that would be a fine result; but if not, and if there are reasons, they can form part of the ongoing discussion that I am sure he has with the variety of groups. They will at least know the suggestions they have made have been brought forward in the House and considered by the committee of the whole.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Chairman, I am, of course, very interested in the proposals that



have been made by counsel for our provincial court judges. I do not think any amendments are necessary at this time, and I will outline my reasons.

With respect to the first amendment suggesting that the person should not be an employee of or under contract to the provincial government, I am not sure what "under contract to the provincial government" means. For example, if a person were to be appointed who was not an employee of the provincial government, but suppose he was a private citizen but was appointed on a per diem basis, would he be regarded as being under contract to the provincial government? I do not know. I think that wording is rather unsatisfactory.

I might say in relation to this advisory committee that the Ontario Provincial Courts Committee has a very high degree of independence from the government, bearing in mind that the judges have their own appointee and that the chairman is an agreed-upon individual, as compared to the committee that advises the federal government, all of the appointees to which are appointed, as I understand it, on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice.

I think Mr. Carman has been a very valuable addition to that committee, because I think it is important that the committee have some broad understanding of what the financial implications are in relation to the government's overall budgetary problems. To eliminate automatically somebody in a very senior position, such as Mr. Carman, would be to eliminate the possibility of having a realistic understanding of the financial problems of government. To eliminate automatically a person such as Mr. Carman, quite frankly, would be a mistake.

Having said that, if the presence of somebody in Mr. Carman's position is going to be a problem in the months ahead, we can consider that; we are not totally opposed to the idea of appointing somebody as a government representative who is not an employee, but we might just lose some very important expertise. I think there should be some flexibility. Obviously we want to maintain as much peace, tranquility, understanding and goodwill as possible, and whoever our appointee will be obviously will take that into consideration.

**5:40 p.m.**

The problem with the second recommendation, making recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor in Council annually, is that obviously when you have a member of the three-person committee who is representing the judiciary and

a mutually agreed-upon chairman, it is hard to conceive of a situation, if it were necessary to make an annual report, whereby that would not happen.

The concern that has been expressed in relation to building in the word "annually" is that one might provide a bit of a rigid deadline, which could cause more problems than it would solve. Obviously, any committee that is a functioning committee is not going to drag its feet when one of the members of the committee is representing the judiciary. With all due respect to the very able counsel who represents the group of judges, I think it is a concern that will not be a problem.

Similarly, in relation to annual reports of their activities and recommendations, I do not know why that would not automatically follow from any report they would make. Why would they exclude the recommendations? Any such report could be debated in estimates, and under our standing orders any 20 members of the Legislature can refer the report to the standing committee, in this case the standing committee on administration of justice. Through both our standing orders and the estimates process, I think our judges can assume there will be very ample opportunity for full debate by any members who would like to do so.

Section 88 agreed to.

Sections 88 to 90, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 91:

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, I simply wanted to raise with the Attorney General the concerns over the proposal with respect to the minister's authority that were expressed by Professor Carl Baar, professor of politics and director of the judicial administration program at Brock University.

As I said earlier, there are only a number of sections, and this is the third of the four, that I want to refer to and that I thought would occasion some further debate and useful discussion at the committee stage.

In his suggestions to the committee, Professor Baar has seen the three lines which compose section 91 as an expansion of the minister's authority rather than merely a restatement of that authority. When the justice committee heard the various presentations, it was suggested that the language of section 91 as reprinted—it was section 92 at that time—merely repeated the language that was already in the Ministry of the Attorney General Act. The Attorney General agreed with that suggestion and stated that the inclusion in the Courts of Justice Act, Bill 100, was designed only to add emphasis and clarity.



According to the views of Professor Baar, the ensuing discussion of that was somewhat right, but unfortunately wrong in part. He refers to the existing act, chapter 271 of the 1980 Revised Statutes of Ontario, and comments that in clause 5(c) it is said that the Attorney General "shall superintend all matters connected with the administration of justice in Ontario."

The new act, however, refers here to the responsibility of the Attorney General with respect to the administration of the courts. I suppose the question we must ask is whether the administration of justice in Ontario is a somewhat broader or less or more constricting phrase than that of the simple term "administration of the courts."

Professor Baar refers to comments in the McRuer report and in debates in this House in February and March 1969. I will not deal with them any further because the suggestions referred to in the letter and in Professor Barr's written submission are available to the staff of the Attorney General.

From a review of what has been said in Hansard here, and also with respect to certain changes in the statutes in British Columbia, he does refer to certain conclusions. He suggests there are two.

"(1) At best," he writes, "section 92 adds nothing to the Attorney General's functions. In this interpretation, it is a restatement but not a clarification."

As I have said, he refers to section 92 in his letter, but in effect that is section 91 in the reprinted and amended bill before us now.

His second conclusion is as follows: "(2) At worst, section 92 does add to or strengthen the Attorney General's functions. The term 'administration of the courts' is broader than the existing term 'judicial offices,' potentially adding to existing executive authority. While it is also not as broad as 'administration of justice,' it has more content and thus could be more easily invoked by an executive seeking to impose its authority on the judiciary in a dispute over matters of court administration."

In his summation, Professor Baar suggests that the committee would be best advised not to enact section 92 or, as I have said, what is in fact section 91 before us. Either it is somewhat less than we had before or it is somewhat more. Perhaps a professor is able to give us that choice without necessarily saying which it is, but it would appear that in one way or the other the section before us is somewhat different. Whether that difference is detrimental to the administra-

tion of justice in this province or not, I do not know.

**Mr. Wildman:** Or incremental.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** It could be incremental; that is so. I simply raise the point because it was one of the few items not otherwise resolved. It may be something which will attract interest from other judicial scholars. The Attorney General may be quite prepared to leave the section simply as it is, but I felt the point was worth having a brief discussion upon because, obviously, Professor Baar has given it some particular thought and the references are there for those who come after us.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** As far as section 91 is concerned, it does represent a consensus that has been reached by the ministry and the judiciary in this province as to what would be appropriate for this legislation. I do not feel inclined to disturb this consensus.

I do not see anything different in substance between "the Attorney General shall superintend all matters connected with the administration of justice in Ontario" and "the Attorney General shall superintend all matters connected with the administration of the courts." I think the administration of justice goes much beyond the courts. This is a section that is included under courts administration, so it would be appropriate I think to make it known that the Attorney General does have some responsibility with respect to the administration of the courts, which falls within his general responsibility and accountability under the Ministry of the Attorney General Act.

In this particular case we have narrowed the role of the Attorney General in highlighting the fact that my responsibility is other than for matters that are assigned by law to the judiciary. We assign a number of matters.

**5:50 p.m.**

What we are trying to accomplish here, and sometimes this principle is lost in the context of our understandable concern for the independence of the judiciary, is that while this is a very fundamental principle and of crucial importance to the administration of justice, I think in all of this debate one should not lose sight of the fact that there is also under our parliamentary system of democracy a principle called accountability of ministers of the crown in relation to these issues. In this particular section we are simply trying to underline the principle of the accountability of the Attorney General and, at the same time, recognize the importance of the independence of the judiciary.



**Mr. Cassidy:** Not having participated in the clause-by-clause consideration, perhaps I can simply register my feeling on the record and hope that perhaps the government will give this more attention in the future.

It is my feeling, looking not just at section 91 but also at the sections that follow immediately after it, that the Attorney General and his ministry have failed to provide leadership in looking at the needs of the users of the justice system as opposed to those of the people who are involved in producing justice.

I am afraid the courts and the legal system in this province have fallen into substantial disrepute among a lot of people because justice is costly, justice is complex and justice is often extremely delayed in Ontario. It is encrusted with too many traditions, and no means is created in this bill for the Attorney General, the ministry, court administrators or anybody to cut through them. There is no concept of the need to manage the courts in order to ensure that, in addition to preserving the independence of the judiciary, due regard is also paid to the needs of the people who are meant to be served by the justice system.

I do not need to tread too heavily on the fact that justice delayed is often justice denied. This is something that affects not only individuals but also people in business, often small business people, for example, who can be harassed literally out of business by the use of judicial devices and threats to use the courts by large corporations with access to legal resources that small enterprises cannot afford.

I am afraid that this kind of problem—the problem of delays, the problem of the fact that the courts have an extremely antiquated and slow, cumbersome system of proceedings—is not addressed in the administrative features of this reworking of the Courts of Justice Act. I am really sorry about that because it seems to me that sooner or later we have to do such things as look at the use of electronics, the use of computers and those kinds of things to ensure better scheduling. We have to look at the question of whether justices should still be able to work only from 10 until 12 with a 15-minute break at 11 o'clock to have a cup of tea, and then from 1:30 until 3:30 in the afternoon and then go home.

We have to look at the amount of waste motion that takes place in many of the courts, where innumerable cases are brought forward and are then deferred for various reasons. We have to look at the abuses of court time that are taken by solicitors, by lawyers who have absences because of their duties in the Legislature or because

of other things that lead them to propose and to get the courtesy of continued deferrals.

We have to look at all those things in order to try to ensure that the system can be more effective and can be seen to be more effective and fair and, to the extent possible, less costly and less complex for the users.

Section 91 agreed to.

Sections 92 to 134, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 135:

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak on the section first.

**Mr. Boudria:** That is irrelevant.

**Mr. Chairman:** I wonder if we can follow the rotation we have been following.

**Mr. Boudria:** When they are over here, they can speak first. That is going to take a long time.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, the member for Ottawa Centre sometimes gets the rows confused, who is in the opposition and where he is. The last time he tried to get up to speak was at Algonquin College at the meeting of the board of directors.

**Mr. Chairman:** I think we are debating this section of the bill.

**Mr. Roy:** As a result of his intervention, the director resigned.

**Mr. Chairman:** We are on section 135.

**Mr. Roy:** I am sympathetic to the confusion of the member for Ottawa Centre.

M. le Président, je voudrais parler brièvement de l'article 135, mais peut-être avant de commencer à discuter cet article, je voudrais faire un commentaire sur les activités de mon collègue, le député du comté d'Ottawa-centre—

Interjections.

**M. Roy:** M. le Président, ces députés-là ne me comprennent pas et essaient d'anticiper mon argument; surtout les bandes du NPD sont très sensibles et ça a peut-être quelque chose à faire avec les sondages, je ne sais pas; mais, de toute façon, je ne veux pas perdre trop de temps à parler de mon collègue d'Ottawa-centre parce que franchement, ça n'en vaut pas la peine. Monsieur le Président, l'article 135 et l'initiative prise par le Procureur général de l'Ontario en déclarant les deux langues officielles au niveau de l'administration de la justice est une étape fort importante ici en Ontario.

A différentes reprises, j'ai félicité le Procureur général de son initiative et je voudrais encore une fois le faire parce que certainement, au niveau de l'administration de la justice, nous croyons que c'est une étape dans l'histoire de l'Ontario qui va



être remarquée et qu'on va se rappeler pendant longtemps. Je trouve ça intéressant de voir que le Procureur général est assis ici avec son collègue, le ministre des Affaires intergouvernementales, qui lui aussi s'intéresse à l'avenir des Franco-Ontariens.

C'est intéressant, je sais que, vous deux, vous êtes très sympathiques à la cause, mais souvent dans votre parti on ressent que chez certains, comme le Premier ministre et d'autres, il y a moins d'enthousiasme, il y a toujours cette crainte—le ministre de l'Éducation souvent démontre un manque d'enthousiasme—

Interjection.

**M. Roy:** Alors, je voulais continuer et dire simplement que c'est une initiative qui mérite certainement d'être soulignée, et je trouve ça intéressant que même quand le Procureur général

a pris l'initiative en question ici, en Ontario, il n'y pas eu d'émeutes, personne n'a cassé les vitres et ne s'est trop plaint; l'administration de la province a continué, on ne ressent pas que la population veuille piller la maison du Procureur général, qu'elle veuille le bouillir dans l'huile, qu'elle veuille défaire le gouvernement. On ne ressent pas ça, ici, en Ontario. On a eu une intervention des députés de Stormont, Dundas et Glengary—

**Mr. Chairman:** If I may, I would draw the member's attention to the clock. Is it your intention to continue at 8 p.m.?

**Mr. Roy:** Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have further things to say.

The House recessed at 6 p.m.

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# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Tuesday, April 10, 1984

Evening Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Tuesday, April 10, 1984

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

House in committee of the whole.

## COURTS OF JUSTICE ACT (concluded)

Resuming consideration of Bill 100, An Act to revise and consolidate the Law respecting the Organization, Operation and Proceedings of Courts of Justice in Ontario.

On section 135:

**Mr. Boudria:** I want to know about the official languages of the courts, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Chairman:** The member for Ottawa East (Mr. Roy) is about to contribute to that debate.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, you are aware that my colleagues in the Liberal Party and I have just finished another very democratic exercise.

Interjection.

**Mr. Roy:** I do not know. The interesting part about democracy is that we do not stack the votes; we wait until they are counted and then we get the results. I am waiting for the results. As I said to the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) before, if he wants to sit in the opposition, he should run federally and we will see him there.

**Mr. Boudria:** Or just stick around for the next election, when you get to cross over here.

**Mr. Roy:** At the risk of boring my friend the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), who was here earlier complimenting me on my in-depth knowledge of Bill 100, I shall continue to make certain comments dealing with section 135.

When I was interrupted by the hour, I was in the process of complimenting the Attorney General for the initiative taken in section 135, and I would say to say him and to all my colleagues, especially the colleagues across the way who felt that the redneck hordes would be at the gate if he did something as momentous as declaring two official languages in the courts, that the province continues, that it was an important step and a step that is appreciated by a minority here in Ontario.

I think it not only serves justice in this province but also serves a very useful and meaningful purpose at the federal level on a national scale, and I hope these will be some of the initiatives taken not only by the minister but also by his

leader when we move from provincial legislation to entrenching these matters in the Constitution.

When I was speaking about this legislation I was in the process of talking to my colleague the new member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Mr. Villeneuve).

Je pourrais dire à mon collègue, qui est tout nouveau en Chambre, qui est tout neuf, que premièrement je vais être poli avec lui, on va le féliciter d'être ici en Chambre— Je sais qu'il est loin là-bas puis je le vois quand même. Tu vas te rapprocher parce que les francophones au sein de ton caucus, la compétition n'est pas forte, je ne veux pas insulter ton collègue du Grand Nord, mais tout de même, on est heureux de te voir ici, moi-même et mes collègues, on veut t'offrir nos félicitations pour ton élection et on a l'espoir que tu vas travailler pour tes électeurs.

Et je dois dire, M. le Président, que quand je parle d'une législation aussi importante que celle-ci, l'article 135, je dis à l'ancien trésorier de la province, si tu veux écouter un peu, tu vas comprendre exactement ce que j'ai à dire.

Interjection.

**M. Roy:** Tu veux parler français? oui certain c'est un français que même toi tu peux comprendre.

Mais, M. le Président, ce que je voulais dire à mon collègue de Stormont, c'est que premièrement, il a fait mention dans un discours, je crois dans mon comté, que ce serait facile de prendre le comté d'Ottawa-est; si je me rappelle bien, c'était ses commentaires. Il a mentionné le fait qu'il était au courant que la présence du député d'Ottawa-est était chancelante par bout; et je voudrais dire que j'ai trouvé ça un peu osé de la part du nouveau député, qui, M. le Président, n'avait même pas siégé une minute en Chambre, et déjà il commençait à critiquer certains des autres députés qui étaient ici. Je dirais à mon collègue, si je pouvais lui offrir des conseils, avant de te fier sur des commentaires, ou des calomnies, ou des rumeurs de d'autres députés, tu devrais essayer de comprendre le processus ici, et si toi-même tu vois des preuves sur les actions ou non d'un député ou de l'autre, là tu peux faire des commentaires.

Mais venir dans un comté sans avoir aucune idée de ce qui se passe ici en Chambre, même pas



avoir siégé une minute en Chambre, et commencer à parler du record parlementaire d'un député, c'est un peu fort.

**Mr. Chairman:** Is this on section 135?

**M. Roy:** Oui, M. le Président, je parle de l'article 135.

Alors, je dirais ça à mon collègue: premièrement, quand tu vas avoir gagné comme on l'a fait dans le comté d'Ottawa-est, maintenant quatre élections, tu pourras peut-être venir faire des commentaires ici sur l'aisance ou la facilité de défaire un député. Monsieur le Président, je voudrais aussi dire au député de Stormont que considérant—

Interjection.

**M. Roy:** Je voudrais dire au député, M. le Président, que j'ai trouvé ça un peu curieux que les députés, qui représentent tout de même une minorité assez importante dans son comté, soient contre l'enchâssement ou des garanties constitutionnelles pour les services en français. Si je comprends bien, c'est ce qu'il a dit en Chambre. Il voulait garder une certaine flexibilité; je dois admettre que je ne comprends pas cette position-là, et si c'est ce que tu acceptes, cette position-là, tu vas être obligé de voter contre cette législation-ci, parce que cette législation déclare le français et l'anglais comme les langues officielles ici en Ontario pour les cours de justice. Si c'est le cas, si tu veux être juste, si tu veux être consistant dans ta pensée, tu vas être obligé de voter contre cette législation.

M. le Président, je dis ça au Procureur général, j'ai hâte de voir si le député va faire des commentaires sur l'article 135, pour voir s'il est d'accord avec une initiative prise par le Procureur général pour déclarer les deux langues officielles en ce qui concerne les tribunaux ici en Ontario. S'il est d'accord avec ça, alors il n'est pas d'accord avec ses commentaires qu'il a fait ici il y a quelques jours.

Je dois dire que comme un représentant qui représente une minorité importante, j'aurais cru que tu aurais démontré plus d'initiative et que tu aurais démontré peut-être un peu plus d'enthousiasme pour cette minorité-ci, qui lutte maintenant depuis plusieurs années et qui a besoin de l'appui de leurs députés. Et alors, j'espère qu'ils vont l'avoir et que toi aussi tu vas voir, comme St-Paul l'a fait, tu vas voir la lumière, tu vas voir que maintenant si on donne des services, si on garantit des services au niveau constitutionnel, il n'y a personne qui va se plaindre, ça va faire mal à personne—

Interjection.

**M. Roy:** Oui, ça existe, le député dit que ça existe; malheureusement, ça n'existe pas au niveau de la justice, ça n'existe pas au niveau des services du gouvernement, ça n'existe pas au niveau des services de la santé, et ça pourrait exister assez facilement, M. le Président. Alors, je dis tout simplement à mon collègue qu'il devrait repenser sa position et essayer de se rapprocher de la position du Procureur général sur cette question.

Alors je voudrais dire au Procureur général, en terminant sur l'article 135, que c'est une initiative fort importante. C'est important parce qu'une fois pour toute ça déclare qu'ici en Ontario—je ne dis pas une fois pour toute, car c'est une législation provinciale, on préférerait la voir au niveau de la constitution—mais tout de même c'est une étape importante, et c'est une étape importante pour la communauté franco-ontarienne.

Je sais que le Procureur va être le premier à dire que le Barreau, comme groupe, a su relever le défi, et l'Association des juristes d'expression française, M. le Président, a su accepter le défi que leur posait le Procureur général et ont su devenir une association efficace, qui non seulement savent et encouragent la population à se servir des services en français aux tribunaux, mais aident beaucoup le Procureur général à continuer l'épanouissement du français au niveau des tribunaux.

**8:10 p.m.**

Section 135 is an important step in Ontario. In reviewing it, I note the Attorney General has brought forward an amendment to section 136 dealing with juries. That was something I had mentioned in a discussion. We were discussing sections 135 and 136 so I will be making comments on both.

**Mr. Villeneuve:** Surely the member can do better than that. He would not win his case in court.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I find it delicious that the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry is interjecting. We should hear something from this new member who came into Ottawa East a few weeks ago.

**Mr. Chairman:** Do not concern yourself with what the member says.

**Mr. Roy:** He had not even sat one hour—

**Mr. Chairman:** We are here to discuss section 135.

**Mr. Roy:** The member had not even sat for one hour when he came along and talked about



my record in this House. I thought that was presumptuous.

I invite the member to come back, because the more members of the Conservative Party who come to my riding, the higher is my majority. So come back; you are all invited.

**Mr. Villeneuve:** Now the member for Ottawa East is boasting.

**Mr. Roy:** I do not have to boast; the evidence is there.

Interjections.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** If I have done nothing else, Mr. Chairman, I have awakened a few back-benchers on that side of the House. Some people are referred to as turkeys by one of their colleagues but I will not do that.

**Mr. Chairman:** That would be unparliamentary.

**Mr. Roy:** It would be unparliamentary. If the member for Welland-Thorold (Mr. Swart) will listen, even he will be able to understand this. I will go slowly just for him. I will read slowly so he does not miss anything.

An important amendment was brought forward by the Attorney General to subsections 136(2) and (3) that deal with the selection of juries or with juries that speak both official languages. I think it is an important amendment.

There was a concern raised by some of my colleagues in the Association des juristes d'expression française and I think the Attorney General has responded to this; the concern that an individual who speaks French and decides to pick a jury speaking both English and French not be frustrated by counsel on the other side who may well have decided that consent was needed and could have frustrated the process. That is an important amendment to section 136 of Bill 100.

In closing, I think the whole process dealing with French-language services in the courts is one of the most important aspects of the initiative taken by this government in giving services to the minority in Ontario. It is one of which all members should be proud and one for which the Attorney General certainly deserves a lot of credit.

I would hope it is a first step in moving from provincial legislative guarantees to constitutional guarantees, something I proposed.

Even the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, who is concerned about getting his feet wet on this issue, will understand that the minority in Ontario is no different from any other

minority. It wants constitutional guarantees. Even he can understand that.

**Mr. Villeneuve:** Speak to your leader.

**Mr. Roy:** My leader is in full support of a resolution I have here.

Interjections.

**Mr. Roy:** He is.

**Mr. Boudria:** I would not trade leaders with you guys on that issue, or any other for that matter. You stand for nothing on that issue. The back-door policy on government; you have no lessons to give us.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order. The member for Ottawa East has the floor.

**Mr. Roy:** It is interesting that I get some barbs from members who do not even understand the issue, members who are downright misguided on the issue. I have no difficulty in standing with my leader on this issue; none at all. Members opposite are cynical to no end. To a man they are—

Interjections.

**Mr. Roy:** Is the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry going to speak in favour of this bill? We are looking forward to his comments.

We are in full support of the legislation. I am pleased on behalf of my constituents to speak in favour of section 135.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, I would not want to let this occasion go by without saying a few words. Section 135 of this bill is very important and very symbolic. On second reading of this bill, I congratulated the Attorney General for including this section, which is a precedent-setting section of the bill. I will read the first line, which says, "The official languages of the courts of Ontario are English and French."

It says "new" at the end of the line. That is certainly an understatement. It is not only new in this bill but, having inquired into other legislation of this government, as far as I can determine this is the only bill introduced by this government that uses the words "official languages" to describe French and English in Ontario.

Other legislation does say French and English are permitted. However, I believe we have created a very important precedent here today. All members of the House should be very proud of the initiative the Attorney General of this province has introduced. Very soon it will be a law of our province.

I would like to encourage the Attorney General to make many copies of the bill, especially that



section, and hand them to some of his colleagues on the other side to convince them to use similar terminology in legislation they will introduce. While I am not holding my breath waiting for the Minister of Education (Miss Stephenson) and others to be forthcoming with similar legislation, perhaps some members of the cabinet will move in that direction.

**8:20 p.m.**

I have stated publicly in the past my support for the Attorney General's initiatives in the area of official languages, and I want to repeat that today and to repeat my personal support and, I am sure, that of all Franco-Ontarians on this issue.

We are looking at the annual report of the same ministry. The pAttorney General of our province has recently issued his ministry's annual report. I note this report is also fully bilingual from cover to cover. This again is something unique from this government. It is no surprise, at least to me, that this unique new feature was initiated by that particular minister. I congratulate him on that initiative. As he knows, I have expressed my views on this before, both in committee and in this Legislature.

I am sure the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry has already noted this document is in both official languages. We can use the term "official languages" as it pertains to courts of law now, because that is an accepted term. I am sure the honourable member is as pleased as I am to see this, although it will not give the flexibility the member claimed was so important in his reply to the throne speech. If I understood what he said at that point, enshrining anything would remove the flexibility that is there now. Of course, this flexibility is removed by having initiated such action.

**Mr. Stokes:** He was not replying; he was moving.

**Mr. Boudria:** He was seconding, was he not?

**Mr. Stokes:** Seconding the motion.

**Mr. Boudria:** He was seconding the motion in reply to His Honour. In any case, I am sure he has already taken note of that.

It is important at this time to remind ourselves of the contents of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms of our country that pertain to section 135 of this bill. You, Mr. Chairman, being knowledgeable in all those matters, have already noted that for all intents and purposes section 19 of the Constitution is enacted as it pertains to Ontario now. It would only be a small matter to include it.

I am sure the Attorney General, having taken this initiative, will want to take that extra step at the next review of our Constitution and amend subsection 19(2), which currently reads: "Either English or French may be used by any person in, or in any pleading in or process issuing from, any court of New Brunswick." I am sure he will want it to read, "New Brunswick and/or Ontario." We have passed legislation that says the same thing as subsection 19(2) of the Charter of Rights.

All this brings me back to an issue I raised the other day. When I made my reply to the speech of His Honour, I indicated that I wanted the leaders of all three political parties in this House to get together and arrive at a consensus vis-a-vis the enshrining of the rights of francophones in this province.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Two of them already have. The majority—

**Mr. Boudria:** It is interesting to hear the member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) interject in this debate. On the issue of official languages, the New Democratic Party members are acting about the same way as 13-year-old boys who have just discovered girls. They think they are a lot better than they really are.

The Ontario Liberal Party has defended the rights of minority languages since the days of regulation 17, since Sénateur Napoléon Belcourt, Aurelien Belanger and several others. The member for Ottawa East and many more after him will defend the rights of francophones.

Interjections.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Chairman, the noise that is coming from our left on this issue as well as on others should be ignored by each and every one of us, because it is absolutely meaningless.

As I was saying, pertaining to section 135 or any other section, the New Democratic Party members are acting like a bunch of 13-year-old boys. They think they are far more virile than they really are on this issue. That is the best way to describe the New Democratic Party.

I am sure all members know where I am at on this particular issue.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Where is the honourable member's party? We know where we are. Where is his party?

**Mr. Boudria:** Where is my party? That is an interesting question.

**Mr. Chairman:** And totally out of order.

**Mr. Boudria:** I have no lessons to learn from those folks. I will ignore their interjections. I am very proud of the party to which I belong, and I am very proud of the leader of our party in this



province and of our caucus. It is a privilege, a pleasure and an honour for me not only to be a member of this Legislature but also to be a member of the very great Liberal Party of Ontario.

Interjections.

**Mr. Roy:** At 16 per cent, those guys do not matter.

**Mr. Boudria:** Sixteen? Eleven.

Before I was so rudely interrupted by the members of the New Democratic Party, we were discussing—

Interjections.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order. The member for Prescott-Russell (Mr. Boudria) has the floor.

**Mr. Boudria:** We were discussing section 135 of this bill and how in effect we could now have a modification or an amendment to our Constitution to enshrine official languages in the court under subsection 19(2).

Without disturbing anything, without causing riots in the streets, as the member for Ottawa East has said, without having the flexibility we have, as other members have indicated in the past, or without really changing anything, we would be making an important gesture. We would be illustrating to all Canadians, not just the francophone minority of this province, that we in Ontario are not afraid to tell the people, not only of this province but also of this whole country, how civilized we are.

We know the civilization of a society is measured by the way it treats its minorities. We in this Legislature collectively, belonging to all political parties in this province, could demonstrate to the government of Manitoba, and especially to the people of Manitoba, and to the people and the government of Quebec, just how minorities are treated. That could be used as an example for other provinces in this country where francophones or anglophones are a minority. Either way, that could be used as an example that we in Ontario are not afraid to indicate our support.

**Mr. Shymko:** Tell us about minority rights in Quebec.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Boudria:** I am glad the honourable member who thinks he knows a lot about Quebec is speaking like the member for High Park-Swansea (Mr. Shymko)—

**Mr. Chairman:** No, no. Just stay on the bill and on section 135.

**Mr. Boudria:** I will discuss section 135, Mr. Chairman, because it pertains to languages. Had the member for High Park-Swansea been in this Legislature when I replied to the speech from the throne, he would have heard me describe in every detail how the anglophone minority is treated in Quebec. While I am not claiming that is correct—there are things wrong there—it is certainly far superior to any achievement of his government in so far as symbolism and everything else are concerned.

As far as the treatment of the anglophone minority in Quebec is concerned, the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, who lives only a few miles from the Quebec border, as I do, knows that anglophones in Quebec have their institutions; they have their schools, colleges and universities. Where are the universities for francophones in this province? We do not have them, and the honourable member knows we do not have them. He should not try to teach lessons to others. We have no moral lessons to learn from the member for High Park-Swansea or from any other member of that party.

8:30 p.m.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Chairman, on a point of order: I thought I would bring to your attention that you have assumed the chair.

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Robinson):** I had come to that realization if others had not.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Chairman, I was just listening to the interjection of the member for Mississauga East (Mr. Gregory), who often interjects in this Legislature on francophone issues. Whether it is when I am asking a question or whether—

**Hon. Mr. Gregory:** Mr. Chairman, on a point of order: I do not object and interject on francophone issues. I do object and interject when that member speaks, because he is so far out in space.

**The Acting Chairman:** That is not a point of order.

**Mr. Boudria:** It is not even a good point, Mr. Chairman. You were probably in the chair—

**The Acting Chairman:** The member for Prescott-Russell will speak on the bill.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Chairman, you were probably sitting in the chair last year and will recall some of the interjections. Hansard has duly recorded them, so I will leave those remarks that way as they pertain to the member for Mississauga East. It is unfortunate for the Attorney General that he has to sit so close to him. I will conclude my remarks by indicating my full



support for section 135 of this bill. We have achieved—

**Mr. Renwick:** Why not let it pass?

**Mr. Boudria:** We will let it pass in a minute. We have achieved a milestone as far as legislation in this province is concerned. I am sure the member for Riverdale will understand, as I am sure he understands law far more than I do, the importance of this symbolic gesture initiated by the Attorney General of our province. The member for Riverdale, being far more knowledgeable in law than I am, will know this is the first piece of legislation in Ontario that has described French as an official language.

That initiative has not only my support and the support of the member for Ottawa East but also the support of the whole francophone population of Ontario as well as, I am sure, the support of the vast majority of the anglophone population of this province. They have not indicated any reticence towards this clause. That indicates to me the support it has.

Merci beaucoup, M. le Président de votre patience d'avoir écouté ma présentation sur l'article 135 du projet de loi no 100 de la province de l'Ontario. Comme je l'ai indiqué tantôt, et je ne me répèterai pas très longuement, sauf pour vous indiquer, à vous, M. le Président, et à toutes les députations ici de l'Assemblée législative, que la section 135 de ce projet de loi est très symbolique, et le symbole qui va être posé tantôt ce soir, lorsque nous passerons en deuxième lecture ou plutôt en comités pléniers de l'Assemblée législative, la section de ce projet de loi, nous serons en effet arrivés à une nouvelle étape en ce qui a trait à la reconnaissance des droits des francophones de l'Ontario.

Je crois qu'en ce moment on devrait non seulement féliciter le Procureur général, malgré qu'il mérite toutes nos félicitations, mais également le personnel de son ministère qui l'ont encouragé à faire ainsi de ce projet de loi. Vous avez dans votre bureau des gens très compétents, vous avez travaillé en collaboration avec l'Association des juristes francophones de l'Ontario ainsi que votre propre coordonnateur dans votre bureau, monsieur Etienne Saint-Aubin, qui vous sans doute encouragé à faire ainsi de la section 135 de votre loi. Je ne voudrais pas laisser passer l'occasion, monsieur le Procureur général, sans porter mes félicitations à vous, à votre personnel et à tous ceux qui ont participé dans l'inclusion de cette section à la loi.

**M. Cassidy:** M. le Président, je tiens à féliciter le Procureur général pour son initiative en présentant la section 135 de ce projet de loi et

aussi, au nom du Nouveau parti démocratique, je tiens à accueillir cette étape historique dans l'histoire de l'Ontario, la reconnaissance pour la première fois dans la loi de notre province des deux langues officielles de la province, le français et l'anglais, et le fait qu'enfin on a maintenant cette reconnaissance par le gouvernement, soit que de nos jours, le français c'est une langue officielle de l'Ontario même si c'est seulement pour les cours de justice de la province.

On behalf of the New Democratic Party, I would like to welcome the initiative of the Attorney General in bringing forward this legislation, which will make French and English official languages in the courts in Ontario.

I am sure the Attorney General knows my views and those of all New Democrats in this Legislature with respect to our desire to see French accepted as an official language and enshrined in the Constitution in acceptance of the Charter of Rights and the Constitution. We were on side in recommending acceptance of section 133 of the British North America Act prior to the current constitutional reforms. That is something I can say unanimously on behalf of all members of our caucus.

I want to say to the Attorney General that the sentiments expressed by the members for Prescott-Russell and Ottawa East are certainly as heartfelt as my own. There has been no question about where they have stood on this issue. I can join the Attorney General in regretting that their party is not quite as harmonious on the issue as I would like it to be.

This is an issue where some courage, leadership and initiative is needed. We have had it in this case from the Attorney General. I am not often one to congratulate the government on anything. I am likely to remain critical about some problems in the administration of justice in the province. But from about 1975 or 1976 there has been a steady and planned progress towards today, when we are now agreeing that French as well as English will be official languages in the courts.

This has been done not only by designating areas where French services will be provided in the courts but also by taking initiatives to ensure that the law school at the University of Ottawa in particular will be equipped to help meet the need for services in French by ensuring there is an adequate number of lawyers capable of practising, and prepared to practise, in French.

As I recall, an effort has been made to ensure that French-speaking judges are named to the



bench or promoted to the appropriate places. Even though it is not ideal and one cannot walk into every court and expect the justice of the peace to be able to operate in French, none the less there is a realistic opportunity. In areas where there is a concentration of francophones across the province, there is the right to have service in French and to have French treated as an official language.

The minister may recall the time of the Carleton by-election in 1974. I believe he came in just prior to that by-election. St. George was a few months before. At that time this province was, to put it mildly, very backward in any effective recognition. I am sorry the member for High Park-Swansea has left. It would be worthwhile his knowing how little had been done in 33 years of Conservative rule with respect to the most ordinary things that would recognize the status of Franco-Ontarians in this province as one of the founding peoples of Canada.

In 1974, a prominent Franco-Ontarian, a former mayor of Ottawa, Pierre Benoit, was put forward as a Conservative candidate in the by-election in Carleton East. Yet at that time it was not possible to get one's marriage, death or birth certificate in French. Drivers' licences, we were told, could not be made bilingual because there was no room on the form.

Most documents of the province were unilingual in English, and no effort was made to provide any bilingual services in most areas of the province. The only area where some headway had been made at that time was in the program to provide French-language secondary education which had begun in 1968.

**8:40 p.m.**

Thanks to pressure from the Franco-Ontarians, from this party and from a number of members on the Liberal benches who are particularly concerned about it, being Franco-Ontarians themselves, thanks to goodwill on the part of some people in the cabinet and some civil servants in the provincial bureaucracy, there has been progress.

I regret this progress has not been universal. I regret in particular that this is because of what one can only describe as political opportunism of the worst kind by the Premier (Mr. Davis), who has constantly been prepared to pander to the worst instincts of his back-benchers on the right wing, the anti-French wing, maybe even the racist wing of the Conservative Party by saying, "Now is not the time." He was trying to dissemble even while, with the other hand, he

was trying to tell the Franco-Ontarians that things were moving forward.

I do not want to treat what is being done tonight as an overall part of that. I would prefer to say that even with a strong minister—and the minister has weaknesses as well as strengths—a minister who has been in his position for many years and who has carved out an area of independence for himself, who can say, "I will look after this show on my own," and who has been able to take French-language services a long way in the province, there is still room for improvement. None the less, it is a historic day when we move to the point where French is now acknowledged as an official language.

I hope the minister might even share some confidence with us this evening and get up to say he is now prepared to speak out publicly and say it is about damn well time that Ontario as a whole was prepared to opt into the constitutional provisions with respect to the official status of French.

He is a minister who has hung around the back rooms with Mr. Romanow, with Mr. Blakeney, with Mr. Chrétien and with other people who were concerned with the Constitution over the course of the last two or three years. He was in a position to provide leadership then; perhaps he was frustrated because of the decisions his boss made.

I want to suggest that this country is sadly in need of even more leadership than is being shown tonight. There is a need for this province to demonstrate to people throughout this country that English-speaking Canadians are not bigots. I am not a bigot; we are not bigots, most of us. That is true, it seems to me, for people across this great province.

After the unsavoury events which, to the regret, I hope, of the minister, were carried out by his fellow Conservatives in Manitoba, where they not only pandered to the worst instincts of a certain group within that province but did so in a way that eventually brought the Legislature of Manitoba to a complete halt—they showed absolutely no respect for law, no respect for the right of a government to govern when it has the majority of seats in the Legislature—in order to provide some healing in terms of the way this country must to try to stay together, it would seem to me that this government could do a great deal by saying: "Fine. We are prepared to do what we would not do a couple of years ago. The situation in Manitoba, the passing of Pierre Trudeau and other such things have led us to the



position where we are now prepared to move as we were not prepared to move before."

New Democrats in Ontario have made it very clear what we are prepared to do with respect to opting into those constitutional provisions, as New Brunswick has done and as Manitoba was preparing to do. We would argue that Ontario should be in a position to provide that kind of leadership. That being said, I want to go back to how I began.

Je tiens encore une fois à remercier le Procureur général pour son leadership en ce qui touche le système de justice dans la province de l'Ontario, en ce qui touche tous les services aux Franco-Ontariens, c'est un vrai accomplissement, une vraie réalisation de la part du Procureur général, M. McMurtry, que nous ayons maintenant en place un système de justice en français et en anglais dans la région de York, dans la région d'Ottawa-Carleton, dans l'est de l'Ontario, dans une grande partie du nord de l'Ontario et dans la région de Niagara.

C'est une grande réalisation et je crois que même si ça doit être simplement la première étape à une situation où le français devient une langue officielle pour toute la province de l'Ontario, dans la constitution du Canada, malgré tout ça, malgré le dossier du gouvernement en général sur cette question, j'accueille la réalisation de ce soir, selon la section 135, sous-section 1, les deux langues officielles des cours de justice de l'Ontario sont: l'anglais et le français. C'est un moment historique, M. le Président, et je suis très heureux de participer à cet événement historique.

**The Acting Chairman:** Merci beaucoup. Does any other honourable member wish to participate in the debate?

**Mr. Roy:** Le député du Stormont, Dundas et Glengarry, non?

**The Acting Chairman:** Oui. Le député? Non.

**The Acting Chairman:** Le Procureur général. The Attorney General.

L'hon. M. McMurtry: M. le Président, je veux remercier mes collègues dans cette législature pour leur support à cette initiative. Je suis d'accord que cette initiative, en particulier, l'article 135 est vraiment une étape très historique dans cette province. Je veux en même temps devenir vraiment bilingue comme mes collègues, pour moi, ça reste un défi très important, peut-être un jour ce sera possible pour moi de parler aussi bien que mes collègues.

Je me rappelle très bien l'annonce que j'ai fait à Ottawa à la fin de novembre 1975 quand j'ai lancé la détermination de créer le système

judiciaire en français dans cette province; à l'époque, dans l'histoire de ce pays, c'était une initiative très difficile, mais nous étions déterminés à faire des progrès et après huit ans, je suis vraiment très heureux d'arriver à ce moment dans cette législature avec le support et l'encouragement de mes collègues sur les deux côtés de cette législature. Je crois très sincèrement que c'est vraiment un moment historique, un moment qui représente la dualité de notre pays.

Mr. Chairman, I do think that we on this side of the House will be able to continue to demonstrate our commitment to the duality of our nation. I recognize there are different approaches to this very important area and I realize it is an issue about which reasonable people can and will disagree. I do appreciate that the étape par étape approach does produce some degree of frustration in some quarters.

While I recognize the importance of the grand symbolism, I also believe the Ontario way is probably to create the solid infrastructure that will provide some real meaning in relation to the provision of French-language services. We are not just dealing with French language in education, which has been a very integral part of the educational system in this province for many years.

**8:50 p.m.**

In the realm of justice we have worked very hard to find the necessary resources to make sure that the reality of justice in both languages was something that could be delivered on a day-to-day basis. Some might even say we took some risks because of the shortage of human resources in the areas that are necessary to create a bilingual court system. When one looks at the need for human resources, in so far as facility in the French language is concerned in a whole host of areas where the government is providing services, one can appreciate the importance of having the resources as we make each new important initiative.

I worry a little bit, I have to say. This is an issue about which I care a great deal. But I do worry about the cynicism that could be created with a grand declaration, on the one hand, of official bilingualism and, on the other hand, the obvious inability to deliver services across the board in the French language. This is something we have to be concerned about because what may appear to be a very attractive declaration from a symbolic standpoint on one day could create a lot of scepticism or cynicism very soon, once it became realized that our ability to deliver



services in the French language across the board was somewhat limited.

We are going to continue to increase our resources. I think we have made enormous progress in the justice system and I do appreciate the kind sentiments that have been expressed across the aisle. As a government we have made it very clear that services in the French language in relation to health care and other vital social services have to be a priority. I just hope the day arrives not too far down the road when this is no longer an issue.

I can say with confidence, so far as the government is concerned, that we are dedicated and committed to enhance our delivery of services in the French language across the board and we will continue to demonstrate our commitment in this respect.

Those of us who have watched the progress of the justice system where bilingual services are involved would hope that what has been created here, as a result of the commitment and support of a number of people, will be a model and will serve as encouragement for the delivery of essential services in a whole host of areas. All of us on this side of the House remain committed to that goal.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, all I wanted to say was that I do not think anyone here has any doubts about the initiative and the commitment of the Attorney General in that area. If one were to base what has happened in the administration of justice as a criterion, I do not think there would be much criticism on the part of any member in this House, and I say that very sincerely.

I find it unfortunate on occasions as important as this where there is a very important initiative that other members do not avail themselves of the opportunity of speaking in support of such legislation, members such as the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry and the member for Nipissing (Mr. Harris), whose ridings are involved in this. That is very important for a lot of their constituents. It is an opportunity for them to get on the record and support this type of initiative.

The only other thing I would like to say to the Attorney General is that I quite understand that some grand declaration which cannot be fulfilled can lead to serious frustration. But some of us have explained and some of us have given the government an opportunity to proceed in a methodical fashion as far as constitutional guarantees are concerned.

There is no reason, now the Attorney General is putting this guarantee in provincial legislation,

that it cannot be put into the Constitution along the lines of the resolution I proposed. In other words, that constitutional guarantee can go in step with the services the minister is now providing. If he did so, it would gradually lead to the inevitable step of section 16. At that point he could make a declaration, once the services were in place and the other constitutional guarantees. He could proceed step by step in that particular area.

I do not want to be critical of the Attorney General. All I say is that for justice and for the sake of the unity of the country, his colleagues could avail themselves of an opportunity of proceeding methodically, even as far as the constitutional guarantees are concerned. That would be an opportunity.

I am not minimizing the importance of this particular piece of legislation. All I am saying is that having accepted the fact that many other minority people are getting constitutional guarantees, francophones in this province are asking for the same standard, the same protection and not without reason. In the early part of the century in this province we saw what happened to provincial legislation. We saw what happened to provincial legislation in Manitoba as well.

It is not a cry. It is not something based on fantasy or on a lack of precedents in the past as to what has happened. The struggle will continue and this legislation is an important step.

Section 135 agreed to.

On section 136:

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, I want to bring the minister's attention to what may have been corrected already, but I do not believe so. Clause 136(4)(b) and clause 136(4)(d) appear to be repetitious. It looks to me as though there was some kind of typographical error there when the legislative staff were pulling the bill together after the changes were made in committee. I wonder if that can be acknowledged. I am sure we can get back to it. I have a couple of comments to make. I was not looking for that. It just hit my eye.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Chairman, I think the member for Ottawa Centre is quite correct. There seems to be a repetition. What is intended to be in clause 136(4)(b) should read: "Any other part of a hearing may be conducted in the French language if, in the opinion of the presiding judge, the hearing can be so conducted." I wonder if we should write this up—

**The Acting Chairman:** Could I just interject here for a moment? Do I presume you are



referring to Bill 100, subsection 136(4), proceedings in English and French, and that you are drawing the Attorney General's attention to clause 136(4)(b) and clause 136(4)(d) of that section, which appear to be duplicated in wording?

**Mr. Cassidy:** Yes.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** I am grateful to the member for Ottawa Centre for drawing this to our attention. The information I have is that this was an error in the printer's office and that clause 136(4)(b) that I just read was the way it should have read when it left the committee. Perhaps we could simply agree that the House would direct that there be this correction. I do not really think it is necessary—

**The Acting Chairman:** I do not have a copy of it; so I am not sure what we are dealing with.  
9 p.m.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that whatever needs to be done could be done in 15 minutes when it has been worked out; either an amendment or just a short motion to accept that a statement be made.

**The Acting Chairman:** My understanding is that the committee agreed to a certain amendment to clause 136(4)(b), and that amendment would read:

“(b) Any other part of a hearing may be conducted in the French language if, in the opinion of the presiding judge, the hearing can be so conducted.”

I am informed that matter was agreed to in committee and, through a printing error and through no other cause, that does not appear on page 66 of whatever reprint it is we have in hand at the moment. Unless there is some strong objection, I would simply ask the printing error be noted and the official record of the proceeding be corrected to reflect that wording without the benefit of an amendment.

Agreed to.

**The Acting Chairman:** Does the member for Ottawa Centre have further comment on section 136?

**Mr. Cassidy:** Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman. I would like a word here on the fact that section 136 implements, in every respect except enshrinement in the Constitution, the requirement of section 19 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms which states, “Either English or French may be used by any person in any court.”

It also relates to the qualification in section 20 that communications be available in both English and French if it is the nature of the office or if

there is a significant demand for communication or services coming from government.

The designated status here is a shade short of the treatment of French in the federal courts of the land. I believe one has those rights in all federal courts in Ontario, but although one has the right to address a court in French anywhere in Ontario according to the law here, in certain cases one cannot guarantee the judge, or the people involved, will be able to understand it.

None the less, I think this substantially implements the spirit of section 19.

If I can just recollect for you, Mr. Chairman, the right to use English or French in any debates or other proceedings of the Legislature of this province has now been accepted over a period of a number of years. I suspect, although I cannot recall, this is enshrined in the rules of this Legislature.

**Mr. Renwick:** It is in the rules.

**Mr. Cassidy:** It is in the rules? Okay.

**Mr. Stokes:** It is in the rules, but it does not ensure quality of debate.

**Mr. Cassidy:** The member for Lake Nipigon (Mr. Stokes) is perfectly correct. It does not necessarily ensure quality, neither in English nor in French, although those of us who speak French hope that on balance the quality of the debate in French is un peu meilleur than that in English.

The point I want to make is the use of French in the Legislature and the use of French in the courts are two of the most fundamental cornerstones of making French an official language in this province.

This province has also moved with respect to providing services in French as well as in English in a way which effectively aims to implement—it may be a bit short—the spirit of what is in the charter, which in section 20 says, “Any member of the public has the right to communicate with any head or central office of an institution,” in this case of the Parliament of Canada, “or with respect to any other office of any such institution where there is a significant demand for communication with and services from that office in such language, or due to the nature of the office it is reasonable that communication should be available, in both English or French.”

That is repeated with respect to New Brunswick.

We are very close to achieving that as well. We are about as close to achieving that in Ontario as we were perhaps close to achieving the officially accepted status of French in the courts of this province maybe two or three years ago.



It is only a little distance farther, and I would like to take issue, therefore, with the step-by-step approach that was advocated by the Attorney General. The difference between him and other parts of the government was that he began with little; he has moved quickly, albeit deliberately, towards the stage we have reached today, but other parts of the government are not so sure. A great deal has been done, though. We are very close.

I just want to put on the record that the only obstacles to accepting the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, to accepting sections 16 to 20 of the charter or to adapting them in a modest way in order to suit the particular requirements of Ontario, lie in the minds of the Premier of the province, the kaffeeklatsch he has every Tuesday morning up at the Park Plaza Hotel and those wooden-headed back-benchers and supporters of the Conservative Party who somehow think there is a nascent backlash that they run the risk of incurring if they show some leadership.

I just want to reiterate that, for God's sake, it is time this province showed leadership; and that means in the end not just the New Democratic Party, not just people such as the member for Prescott-Russell and the member for Ottawa East, but the government of Ontario. I appeal to them to do just that.

Section 136 agreed to.

**The Acting Chairman:** Shall sections 137 to 146, inclusive, carry?

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I would just like to make one comment on section 145, the question of public access.

On section 145:

**Mr. Roy:** I note this was a further amendment by the standing committee on administration of justice, because great concern had been raised, as the Attorney General will recall, as far as public access was concerned.

I note the following amendment was made to the section: "The court may order the public to be excluded from a hearing where the possibility of serious harm or injustice to any person justifies a departure from the general principle that court hearings should be open to the public." I noted this was a restriction of what existed before and I think it was a wise move on the part of the justice committee to limit any effort to exclude the public from our courts; and I think it was wise of the justice committee and of the Attorney General to proceed with limiting access by the public to our courts.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, I will make my comments on section 145 rather than on section 146, if I may.

**The Acting Chairman:** I beg your pardon?

**Mr. Cassidy:** I will make the comments I intended to make on section 145 rather than on section 146.

**The Acting Chairman:** Are they relative to section 145?

**Mr. Cassidy:** Yes.

**The Acting Chairman:** Please proceed.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Always relevant, Mr. Chairman.

**The Acting Chairman:** I was not being facetious; I was simply asking where they were more appropriate.

**Mr. Cassidy:** That is probably it. I want to have a word or two with the Attorney General with respect to public access to the courts of justice with respect to television, radio and photography. It would be equally appropriate under either section, but the principle of public access is one that has to be relevant to the time.

The idea that the public would have access, including the reporters from the press, dates back to the 18th century, if not before. There was a time when the proceedings of Parliament were not accessible to the public in the sense that it was an offence for a reporter to go into Parliament and to report in the press and newspapers of Britain in the 18th century what actually had occurred in Parliament. That eventually changed.

It seems to me we are in that situation today with respect to access for the electronic media in particular to the courts. I appreciate a judge has responsibility for preserving dignity and decorum. If I were a judge and somebody was trying to poke a camera into the face of every witness or every accused from two or three feet away and constantly snapping electronic flashes and that kind of thing, I would be very disturbed and would very quickly bring it to a halt.

**9:10 p.m.**

But a judge always has that right, and I would like the Attorney General to speak about that because anecdotally, as I talk to people, few people outside the justice system get into the courts. I have talked to teenagers and to adults who for some reason or other have dropped into the courts in the old city hall in Toronto or the courthouse on Nicholas Street in Ottawa.

They are alarmed, disturbed and dismayed at what they see. In the periods when I have been in the courts for various reasons, to help someone



who is there, observe for a period of time or something like that, I, too, have been disturbed and dismayed at what is there.

One of the reasons we have problems in the administration of justice is precisely because the courts have been allowed to be too much of a preserve, to be too closed off from the general public. The need for open exposure of what goes on is not adequately met by having 80 or 100 seats available to members of the public who can take time off work during the day to go in and see what is happening when the courts are open and operating.

As I understand it, the Attorney General was talking quite bravely about experimenting in this area. Then the Canadian Judicial Council or some other body of judges issued an obiter dictum. At that point, the Attorney General simply turned tail and decided he would not seek to make any innovations in this area at all.

When open access in almost every other walk of life, certainly of public life, means much greater access for the media to act as intermediaries on behalf of the public, can the Attorney General tell us about that and explain why that should not be the case, bearing in mind the need for dignity and decorum in the courts of Ontario?

**The Acting Chairman:** Does the Attorney General have any comments on section 145?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Chairman, are we going to comment on this section, because this comment is equally relevant to section 146?

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to deal with it on this section and not deal with it again on section 146.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Our approach to television in the courtrooms has been consistent throughout the period I have had the privilege of serving as Attorney General. The suggestion that we suddenly had a change of heart because of the ruling that was announced by the late Chief Justice of Canada is an impression that may have been created by some of our media, but does not reflect what occurred.

Our position has been that television does represent a potential for a worthwhile education in the courtroom if it is done properly. We have agreed and we are continuing to agree that television can have access to the courtroom for certain specific initiatives which, in our view, have a genuine educational dimension. There are plans currently under way for a further documentary to be filmed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., subject to the consent of all participants.

There are a great number of questions that have to be answered in relation to the general

presence of television in the courtrooms. As a practical matter, and we have already had experience of this, television is an expensive medium. What the public is going to see 99 per cent of the time on any given night is a few seconds of what has happened in the courtroom as far as reproducing the actual testimony of a witness is concerned. Because of the enormous impact of television, that has the potential to distort seriously what happens in the courtroom. A number of people within and outside the world of television have commented on that. This is but one of our concerns, that the medium not be used simply to sensationalize and at the same time trivialize the proceedings that are taking place.

In this context, there has been a certain amount of publicity given to the fact that in Florida, for example, where television is routinely involved in recording trial proceedings, there have been some serious disturbances in the community as a result of selective editing by the networks. They have given a totally distorted picture of what has been happening in the courtroom. As a result, the jury verdict does not seem to be in accord with the snippets of coverage people have seen day after day. In a couple of instances, there have even been very serious disturbances. I am talking about riots.

That may appear in the Canadian context as a rather extreme example. It may be, but I think it represents the ability of this very important medium to distort what is going on.

There are a number of other issues that have to be dealt with in relation to the impact this has on the ability of witnesses to give evidence. The issues in relation to invasion of privacy are an example. Victims of sexual assaults, for example, do not for the most part want to have their evidence and their identity known to hundreds of thousands of people who might see them giving testimony in a case of that kind.

There is a whole host of issues that have to be addressed, but anybody who thinks the public is going to have meaningful access to the courtroom because there may be a few seconds flashed across the television screens each night is deluding himself. I think such people have a very false expectation. The truth of the matter is it is a very powerful medium. In relation to the court proceedings, one has to be very cautious about the extent to which it is utilized.

The late Bora Laskin and his colleagues in the Canadian Judicial Council were obviously very concerned about the potential of this type of access to have a very detrimental effect on the overall public interest.



Our approach remains the same. It is an issue that has to be approached with a great deal of caution and a great deal of care. I expect the matter will continue to be debated in the months ahead; in the meantime, we are permitting television access to the courtrooms where there is genuinely an education dimension to be served and in cases where it would appear that the interests of any of the participants are not going to be unfairly affected.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, I want to comment on section 145 and the question of access and the matter of television to which the Attorney General has just referred.

He has said quite clearly, and I agree with him, there are a number of serious issues to be addressed in this whole approach. It is most important to take a balanced view to ensure that above anything else, the rights of no person are jeopardized because of the involvement of any extraneous activity in the courtroom, whether it be television, whether it be some other form of demonstration or whatever the case may be.

**9:20 p.m.**

I accept the fact that there have been a variety of reviews of this area. What very much disappointed me was the somewhat terse response the Canadian Judicial Council presented in reply to the request that these matters be considered. I would have hoped that the various themes of concern would have been set out and that the various principles involved might have been brought together in one discussion paper, however they might have decided to do it, with the various pros and cons considered.

What we saw in the committee was a simple letter of perhaps four or five lines to the effect that: "We have considered it and the answer is no. Yours truly." With the greatest respect, I do not think that is good enough. The whole system would be better served if some suggestion could be made that the matter be somewhat more thoroughly canvassed with the hope the various points could all appear in one form. No judgement on an issue could have been any more succinct than that was, but it is my understanding that, at least ordinarily, various reasons are given as to why decisions are made.

As there is greater familiarity with television, as we learn, for example, from the reports that come from the Grange inquiry, or as consideration is given to the impact on the US scene of that trial in Massachusetts, as I recall, I hope more thought will be given to this whole theme.

I recognize the desire not to compromise anyone's rights in these matters. When this

whole subject was first discussed, my immediate response was that if it were a matter of whether or not one would rather have television in the courtroom, my view was that I would rather not. However, a variety of presentations have been made to us. The editors and managers of television stations are most interested in this theme; that is part of their enlightened self-interest, and I understand that.

As the Attorney General continues to visit other jurisdictions, as he and some of the senior judges have done, and as the impact of these events are discussed by polling, by review or by the learned comments made on some of these experiences, I hope he will at least attempt to encourage the Canadian Judicial Council to broaden its views and perhaps give us some guidance and expectations for the future rather than a simple rejection.

This may all come in due course, but I feel it is important to be on the record as someone who would like to encourage that, recognizing the difficulty that many judges possibly would feel their position was being compromised and recognizing the requirement, above all else, that the parties involved, whether it be a criminal or a civil matter, have the final say in this kind of approach.

I want to share my disappointment that we were not given more to work with. I hope that on another occasion we may have the benefit of more considered and explained views, which I believe will be in the public interest.

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Chairman, I want to speak in a brief way on this. I had not intended to speak on it. I spoke in the course of the committee hearings on a number of the issues that have been before the committee.

I can understand the concern of politicians who want to be on the side of the media in an issue such as this question of access to the courts, but I happen to be a fairly unreconstructed person who believes that as long as there are no secret trials anywhere in Ontario, that is the important issue. It is not a question of who shall select what will be reported by the press or any media one way or another.

The rights of the individual citizen standing before a judge or a judge and jury in a court are paramount to any question of selectivity on behalf of the media, be it radio, television or print, with respect to the way that person will be dealt with in the courts. I am quite satisfied with the present method of dealing with the question of access to the courts.



I do not want to see any secret trial in this province, but I also want everyone to understand that the expression in the charter about freedom of expression or opinion or access to the media and so on is not an open sesame to provide the media with the opportunity of deciding what will or will not be selected for the purpose of reporting in the media. I feel very deeply about the question.

I agree with the proposition that with the consent of everybody involved, there may well be opportunities to provide an educational format for people with respect to the way the justice system operates. But in this society, which is dominated by the institutions of the society, one of the few places where a person is entitled to stand alone, in a way that will not be influenced by what goes on outside and have the decision made in accordance with legal principles, is one that will ultimately prevail in the courts.

It is a kind of slippery path to start on some proposition that we should be moving towards open access for selectivity purposes by whatever the media want to report about any trial situation. I do not think there can be a lawyer in the province who does not believe the requirements of the sensitivity of his clients, whether in small claims court, in a charge in front of a jury of the most heinous offence one could conceive of, is one that can be tampered with by our society, which is devoted to an idea something like, "The media must dominate the world." It does not operate that way if we are going to have respect for the individual.

I emphasize again that it is possible, either through staged presentations by television, radio or any other of the media, with the consent of all persons, to provide an educational format about how the justice system operates. The present restricted courtroom, with access to individuals who want to attend trials and listen to what goes on and the opportunity for the media to report as they see fit, is the kind of respect for the individual which in this area must surmount any consideration of a selectivity leading to exploitation or otherwise.

**9:30 p.m.**

I do not have a problem with the decision of the royal commission. A royal commission is not a trial. But when an individual is there, his rights and his individual privacy must be protected. The countervailing protection he has is that he will not be tried in secret. I think it is that simple.

In the course of the long history of this province or of the country, I may be proved wrong. Perhaps I regret that the Canadian

Judicial Council did not give some learned explanation of why it took the position that it did. Perhaps I could regret that somebody else would do it. But this is one area where I do not happen to think the position of the Attorney General was affected by that.

I do believe the course we are following is the proper and adequate course to pursue. When the day comes in this assembly that the Attorney General raises the question of an open sesame on the courts to the media, if I am still here, as I expect to be, perhaps into the next century, I will stand in my place on behalf of the individual who stands alone in a situation in which he does not expect to find himself, in either a civil or criminal trial, to protect that individual against the power of the media.

As long as there are no secret trials and our open courts provide for it as they do at present, that is also the protection of the individual. It is solely around the cluster of the rights of the individual in our judicial system that I stand, even if I must disengage myself gently, as I have on other occasions, from my colleagues and from the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt). I do not believe there is some kind of polite path that will lead us to a different route.

To my mind, the individual standing alone in a courtroom, pursuing his civil claim, defending himself against a criminal or provincial offence charge, is entitled to be assured that his trial is open but is not to be exploited. He is entitled to be protected against a secret trial. He is entitled to an atmosphere that will permit him to express himself in the best possible way, either in the prosecution or in the defence of a civil matter or of a criminal matter.

I feel rather deeply about this kind of question. I do not want to play around with it. That is the position I stand by, and as long as I am around here, I will continue to stand by it.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I have a few comments on section 146. I tend to agree with my colleague the member for Kitchener on this issue. I have watched the debate on this matter proceed for quite some time. Like my colleague, I had certain very serious reservations about allowing television into the courtroom as to the circumstances and guidelines that would be followed and the constraints there would be on some of the scenes we sometimes see involving the electronic or photographic media.

Like my colleague the member for Kitchener, having listened to the debate and heard submissions from various groups, I was somewhat surprised by the categorical refusal of the



Canadian Judicial Council. I agree with my colleague. Unfortunately, I did not have all the arguments that were presented. The judges may well have been justified in their approach. I do not know. I was simply quite surprised, when the debate seemed to be open and there were discussions about it, that it seemed quite categorical to me; there were no ifs or buts. It was clear to them that this was a dead issue and would not be considered in the future. I found that a bit disappointing.

The Attorney General has cited examples of abuses and some of the dangers. He has cited cases in Florida, where the media have access to the courtroom, and some of the results of cases that have taken place in Florida. But the Attorney General will agree that some of the trials there involved very volatile issues, such as charges against police involving minority groups.

I am not sure we would not have had the same results if television had not been in the courtroom. What seems to have triggered some of the riots that took place in some of those areas was a perception that the jury released police officers or that police officers were not dealt with from a judicial point of view, that they were allowed to go free after what the population considered to be very serious offences. I think that is what triggered some of the difficulties in Florida, and I am not sure what contribution television made to them.

I have watched with some interest the televising of the proceedings of the Grange inquiry. Again, there must be some setup whereby controls are imposed so it does not disturb the process. I do not know what guidelines are being followed, what editing is going on and so on, but I must admit I am not particularly offended by what I see. I am not offended by the pictures that are coming across about what has taken place in that inquiry, and I consider what has taken place in that inquiry to be an important experiment.

I listened to my colleague the member for Riverdale talk about the right of the individual to free, open justice but at least to have some protection against some form of exploitation. I think one stands the chance of being exploited by the written media, and even by other means where there is no television.

I know television is an important medium; I know it can be more effective or more damning than any other form of communication we have available now. But I still feel that if an individual is going to be exploited, it can take place in the written media and in other forms. I say to my friend, with respect, I do not see how making a

decision to stop all forms of broadcasting on television, electronics, radio or whatever, prevents what he is concerned about in relation to the individual.

I understand that we must proceed cautiously, but I think we should have an open mind as evidence comes in. In other words, I do not think we should close this issue completely and decide it is an unfit medium to be reporting court proceedings.

I still have an open mind on this; I am still prepared to be convinced one way or the other. I did not have the evidence that was before the judicial council. It may well be that the judicial council was fully justified in coming to its decision. I, like my colleague the member for Kitchener, was surprised that it was so categorical and appeared to be so final, and I hope we will keep an open mind on this matter in the future.

9:40 p.m.

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Chairman, I am constrained to respond. My colleague the member for Ottawa East has a lot more experience in the criminal courts than I have, having acted for the crown on a number of occasions, and I am quite surprised he does not understand the significance of what he is speaking about.

I am talking about the question of the slippery road. The road is not that simple. Whether he or I understand it, over the course of the history of English law, with respect to the defence of the individual and the rights of the individual in a court, either in civil matters or in criminal matters, the print media clearly understand the limitations under which they operate. If they do not operate within those limitations, then they are subject to whatever the punishment may be that the court will exercise against the print media.

Members know as well as I do there is not a newspaper of any repute published in Ontario where there is not a lawyer who scrutinizes that newspaper with respect to the questions of whether or not justice is obstructed or affected, or any way in which justice may be impeded, or whether or not there is a possibility of contempt. That is an integral part of the development of the justice system. I happen to believe responsible newspapers are well aware of those rules.

Members know as well as I do every edition of each of the Toronto newspapers is subject to that kind of scrutiny. That is an evolutionary development with respect to the relationships of the individuals to the courts. The courts have indicated continuously and constantly that during the day of the individual in the court, whether he is a plaintiff, or a defendant in a civil suit or



charged under a criminal suit, or a witness in a trial in a criminal suit, the pursuit of the elusive question of the justice of the problem, the resolution of the problem, the truth of the facts which are placed before the court, is an ultimate part of the democratic process in which we are engaged.

There is no way the instantaneous communication or the delayed communication of photographic pictures can be subject to that kind of control which has been exercised over a period of time within the court system. I can agree with the member for Ottawa East (Mr. Roy) and with the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt) that it would be nice had the judicial council given us a learned basis on which we could commence a continuous and ongoing argument.

To me, it is so elementary that to provide an open door with respect to politicians who are constantly seeking press attention, to start the argument that somehow or other the justice system will be served when it has nothing to do with us but has to do with the citizen of the province or the landed immigrant in the province standing alone before a court to assert either a civil claim or a defence with respect to a criminal charge; and to pretend that the electronic media with all their power can in some way be allowed to intrude on that person when he stands alone in a court system to have his rights vindicated or to pursue his claim, or to have his witnesses altered in the course of their testimony or decline to attend, or if subpoenaed to be affected by that kind of on-stage operation, is totally destructive of that in which I am involved.

If my colleague the member for Ottawa East has not understood what I have said and my colleague the member for Kitchener does not understand what I say, I believe the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) does understand very clearly what I am speaking about. If other people in the assembly do not understand it, I want to assert it very clearly. I do not want there to be any misapprehension that it is a question of ongoing study or it is a question that the judicial council is somehow at fault because it has not provided the fodder which will foster an ongoing debate, or for someone to think in some kind of an illegitimate legal argument that freedom of expression under the Charter of Rights is in some way going to destroy that freedom, I do not particularly want to be concerned with that argument. If, ultimately, my position is reversed by the Supreme Court of Canada, I will make my own judgement at that time.

In a world and particularly in a legislative assembly which seeks every day to get its views out through the media, I simply draw the line at seeing a constituent of mine who is pursuing a claim in the court being selected, under whatever conditions—not by any educational process and not by his consent—to have his position with respect to the state or with respect to another citizen transmitted through the electronic media at the whim of the media—justifiable as it may be to them.

I do not want anyone to misunderstand my position. I do not believe for one single moment there is something called a continuing, ongoing, open debate about the question. If somebody wants to test the Charter of Rights in the courts, let him do so. I can assure the members it does not require an argument up to the Supreme Court of Canada. I would be very surprised if the Supreme Court—in the tradition of that court and with the reflection of our Charter of Rights—came to the conclusion that a single individual pitted against the state or against a defendant would not be entitled to have the utmost security in the search for the justice or the truth secured to that person.

I simply want to avoid any suggestion that this is some continuing, ongoing debate which in the process of the evolution of the democratic society is going to say that every court in the land will have television cameras in it and all channels will broadcast at all hours of the day and night. That will militate against the very thing which I believe our courts are designed to protect.

The point that was missed totally was that the evolution of the court to access is involved with the privilege of the media and the right of the media, on our behalf, to make certain that nobody in Ontario or Canada is subject to a secret trial. Within the limitations of that principle, the privacy of that proceeding must be protected.

That is my position. I have perhaps reiterated it at some length.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Chairman, briefly, I would like to make a suggestion here in view of this debate. It is clear the views expressed have been largely as much individual views as views on behalf of the different parties in the Legislature. I think that indicates this matter does require or could do with some further study.

The member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick) and I do not see entirely eye to eye on this, partly because he is a lawyer and I used to be in the media before I became a politician. I acknowledge there are problems involved. I recall there



were problems involved when the electronic media were introduced in this place.

For example, how does one deal with the question of parliamentary privilege over the electronic media? It is a different matter than when one is dealing with it through the print media. I recall the arguments that were made up on Parliament Hill when the radio reporters were trying to gain access to Parliament and were turned around then.

**9:50 p.m.**

I hope the Attorney General will not leave for a second. My suggestion would be that this is a matter of public policy. It is a matter which deserves some deep study, but I do not think the only opinion to be looked at should be that of the judicial council.

I would like to suggest quite seriously that one or two judges, one or two experienced trial lawyers, one or two people who are experienced and thoughtful from the media, who have either been involved as reporters or who had responsibility for electronic outlets for radio or TV stations, and one or two members of the public could all be brought together in some kind of commission, committee or task force to look at some of the problems involved in the electronic media gaining entrée to our courts of justice. On the other hand, they could also look at some of the theoretical and practical advantages in terms of our concepts of the court and justice system and democracy.

I suspect there is some balance to be had between the communal rights reflected in this section, which calls for the courts to be open, to have open access to the public, and the individual rights of the individual citizen. As an individual who might at some time come before the courts, I have a desire to have those individual rights respected and also a desire to ensure that the system itself is just and is seen to be just. Having it seen to be just may well entail having public access through the media.

It has been 30 years this year since television became a reality in Canada. The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. began broadcasting in 1954. That means that half of our population basically grew up with television as a major or the major means of information. Under those circumstances, it seems to me we cannot simply ignore the reality of television. Just as this place has perhaps halfheartedly tried to adapt and other legislatures have more fully adapted to the existence of the electronic media and the coming of age of that electronic medium, that attempt should be made.

Bearing in mind, as I fully acknowledge, there are problems, it would be far better to find a route for access in that way than to have a case where the Charter of Rights was judged to say, "Yes, you have to have cameras all over the place." It would be better to find a sensitive way by which those electronic media can be involved in reporting in a way which both informs the public and also respects the rights of the court and the rights of the accused.

**Mr. Roy:** I want to make one brief comment, Mr. Chairman.

**The Acting Chairman:** I have the feeling we are going around and around on this.

**Mr. Roy:** I want to speak on the section. That is okay; we can speak as many times as we want. Do not get impatient.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** How many times do we speak on each section?

**The Acting Chairman:** With respect, they can speak as many times as they choose; that is the rule.

**Mr. Roy:** That is right.

Interjections.

**The Acting Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** Do not accept the advice from your colleague whose only experience is going back and forth in his limousine. That is the kind of advice you would not want to accept.

**The Acting Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** Does the member ever wonder what he really performs around here?

**Hon. Mr. Gregory:** I am here once a day.

**Mr. Roy:** Yes, once a day.

**The Acting Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** Oh, is the member awake now?

**Mr. Hodgson:** You are here once a week.

**Mr. Roy:** Did I wake you up?

**Mr. Hodgson:** How would you know? You are never here.

**The Acting Chairman:** Order. The member for Ottawa East has the floor.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Again.

**Mr. Roy:** Oh, Bette.

**The Acting Chairman:** There is no one here named Bette.

**Mr. Hodgson:** I am leaving.

**Mr. Roy:** Go fall asleep someplace else.

**The Acting Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Chairman, I thought I should make a few comments in respect of my colleague



the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), who seemed to suggest that some of us did not understand the full implication of having television in the courtroom. I want to say to the member for Riverdale that I do understand the implications. We do understand that if something was televised live, it could certainly cause problems. We do understand that if there was some delay in television reporting, problems could be created by that. I think my colleague is taking a much too narrow and categorical position on the issue, and probably the member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) agrees with me.

As the member for Ottawa Centre has mentioned, there were some serious objections to having television in this assembly, in the House of Commons and in a variety of other proceedings. I can recall at one time we would never have allowed television at a public inquiry or at a royal commission inquiry or whatever. In spite of the problems—and they are serious problems and I am sure the judicial council considered these matters—for my friend to say that somehow those of us who say some accommodation may be made are misguided or do not understand the problem is being too simplistic. This type of media publicity is something that should be considered.

I fully understand the problem, but I really do not think it is insoluble. I am surprised, frankly, that the member for Riverdale would take such a categorical position, that somehow if we were to proceed in that direction, we would be undermining the liberty and the freedom of the individual. That is being much too simplistic.

Sections 137 to 144, inclusive, agreed to.

Section 145 agreed to.

Sections 146 to 207, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 208:

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, one of the interesting things in this statute in the last half dozen pages or so is the wholesale wiping out of a variety of statutes that have existed in this province for many years. Section 208 repeals the Quieting Titles Act, which is chapter 427 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario.

I wanted to raise with the Attorney General a submission the committee received from Mr. Evert Van Woudenberg, a lawyer with the firm of Gardiner, Roberts in Toronto. I thought it was important to raise it at this time because we did not receive any further comment on his suggestion, which was concerned with the repeal of this statute. The letter is quite brief, and I will quote it.

“By section 208 of Bill 100, otherwise known as the Courts of Justice Act, the Quieting Titles Act is repealed. There are some situations where the existence of this act provides essential relief, where there is no alternative remedy under current legislation. Specifically, where the owner of property under the registry system has disappeared and the mortgagee has a problem with title, the mortgagee has no other recourse.

“The Land Titles Act provides relief for title problems involving land registered under that act. Under the Certification of Titles Act, RSO 1980, chapter 61, by section 4, an owner or any other person claiming an estate in fee simple in land may apply. The result of such an application is a certificate of title as owner, by section 11. Clearly, there is no relief for a mortgagee.

“The only other avenue for relief would be an application under rule 610, 611 or 612. These applications are not meant for complicated questions of fact, and many title problems are not capable of being summarized into ‘any particular question’ as required by rule 610. Questions of legal description and possession are probably not questions of construction under rules 611 and 612.

**10 p.m.**

“Accordingly, this letter suggests reconsideration of section 208 of Bill 100. There seems to be no reason why existing legislation, which provides a remedy where other avenues do not apply, should be repealed. In the alternative, the Certification of Titles Act should be appropriately amended to allow any person with an interest to make application.”

As I have said, we have dealt in the submissions with a great variety of comments with respect to a number of the sections of the act. This is the last item I had hoped to refer to. In just reading the submission, it seems to me that Mr. Van Woudenberg makes a point about the possible value of keeping this statute in place. I would like to hear from the Attorney General why, therefore, we are repealing it.

Is Mr. Van Woudenberg incorrect in his suggestion that this statute may still have a particular value and that certain rules do not cover the problems that could occur? On the other hand, is it preferable that the Certification of Titles Act should be amended in some way that is going to protect the very rare circumstances in which this might come up?

I would like to hear the view of the Attorney General on this, because if we do wipe out this statute, we may require something attended to in



its place if the submission made to the committee has some merit.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** My senior advisers have looked at this. They believe the rules and the Certification of Titles Act do satisfactorily fill the gap. In order that there be no problem and to assure everyone that this is the case, this matter has been looked at by Mr. Justice Morden and his subcommittee. That subcommittee has it under review right now. In the event that it is believed there is any gap, we will address it as quickly as possible.

The matter is under active review. We think there is no problem. In any event, Mr. Justice Morden and his subcommittee have the matter under review at the present time just to make doubly sure that our view is the correct one.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** If that is the case, would it be prudent to reserve section 208 out of the application of section 221 so that proclamation of the bill might occur, except for section 208, on a day to be determined, with a separate comment that section 208 would form part of the bill on separate proclamation?

It might bridge the gap if section 208 were reserved from the general proclamation of the bill until the Attorney General gets the opinion he is expecting. This is simply a suggestion that might help the mechanics to ensure that if a problem came up during the time in which the law was not in force, some party would not be irreparably damaged.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** As we have indicated, the bill is not going to be proclaimed until January 1, 1985. If the matter is not clearly resolved by then, we can proclaim every other section except 208. I am grateful to the honourable member for bringing it to my attention.

Section 208 agreed to.

Sections 209 to 222, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill ordered to be reported.

### ARCHITECTS ACT

Consideration of Bill 122, An Act to revise the Architects Act.

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Robinson):** Does the Attorney General have an opening statement on Bill 122?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** No, Mr. Chairman, I do not have any opening statement. This matter has been carefully canvassed in the justice committee.

**The Acting Chairman:** May I know which sections members may have an interest in?

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, as the Attorney General said, the matter was canvassed quite thoroughly in the committee. There are only two items to which I wish to speak; one is a portion of section 7, and the other is section 35.

**The Acting Chairman:** Sections 7 and 35. Does the third party have an interest in specific sections of this bill?

**Mr. McClellan:** Yes, we do, Mr. Chairman. If you will bear with us for 30 seconds, our critic is on his way.

**The Acting Chairman:** Is there anything before section 7?

**Mr. Renwick:** On Bill 122, Mr. Chairman?

**The Acting Chairman:** Yes.

**Mr. Renwick:** I have no comment on Bill 122. I am satisfied with the bill as it has been reported by the committee to the House. The Attorney General assures me he has no amendments to propose.

Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, agreed to.

On section 7:

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, I thought we had changed paragraph 7(1)6. When I look at the bill, as reprinted, as amended by the committee, the item that is before you appears to be printed exactly the same way as it was before we changed it. I thought we had changed it to read "respecting matters of practice and procedure before committees required under this act that do not conflict with the Statutory Powers Procedure Act." As a result, since we also dealt with that in Bill 123, I was wondering why it was reprinted as it had been.

There may be a reason that amendment is not the right way to go, but I would have thought that if the committee had made the change it should appear in that form and that there might be some formality to change it back if such were the case. I do not know whether that wording was the best wording that could have been devised, but I thought that was what the committee had decided. Therefore, I would like to know where we are with respect to the wording of paragraph 6.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** I gather there was some debate in relation to similar wording in Bill 123. My recollection, and it has been confirmed, is that there was no such amendment or change to Bill 122. We are of the view that it should remain the way it is, as printed.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** I thought, and I may be wrong, that both the bills had been changed so the wording would be consistent. Those were the



instructions of the committee and the understanding that counsel for the ministry would make those necessary parallel changes. However, if that is not the case, then I have to accept the comments of the Attorney General and the subsection will have to go as it is.

Section 7 agreed to.

Sections 8 to 34, inclusive, agreed to.

10:10 p.m.

On section 35:

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, in section 35 we deal with discipline proceedings, the examination of certain documents and certain hearings that can occur in camera. That appears in subsection 35(4). When you look at the bill, as reprinted, the bill before us, sir, under section 35 you will see that subsection 4 is reprinted the way it was. I was of the view that we were going to make certain deletions under subsection 4, particularly with respect to matters involving public security.

I have my notes here with the note, "To be removed!" I thought it was the understanding in the committee that counsel for the ministry was going to change certain of the words there. Yet I find in the bill before us tonight that those words remain exactly as they were.

Might I have some explanation as to why that is the case? I know there was some concern as to how it might be handled and what the appropriate way to do it was, but I was of the opinion it was the wish of the ministry that, effectively, clause 35(4)(a) was going to be taken out.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** I have no recollection of any agreement on a change. I think we simply agreed that we would review the matter and determine whether there should be any change on the basis that there was an analogy to the Courts of Justice Act. I think the analogy is relatively tenuous, so at the present time I have to advise the honourable member that our intention is to leave it as it is.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** I will not make a serious case for it one way or the other. I thought the ministry was perhaps more particularly involved in those changes than the members of the committee actually were. If the Attorney General finds that leaving it in has a particular or general value, I will not quarrel further with it.

Section 35 agreed to.

Sections 36 to 57, inclusive, agreed to.

Bill ordered to be reported.

#### PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS ACT

Consideration of Bill 123, An Act to revise the Professional Engineers Act.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Chairman, I have no opening statement, but I do have an amendment to section 2.

Section 1 agreed to.

On section 2:

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Robinson):** Hon. Mr. McMurtry moves that section 2 of the bill be amended by striking out subsections 5 and 6 and by renumbering subsection 7 as subsection 5.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, perhaps the Attorney General would like to explain why he is removing from the bill amendments that were included, particularly and unanimously, by the committee which had the hearings on this bill.

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Chairman, this issue has been the subject of a good deal of debate outside as well as inside these premises. I am well aware that this particular amendment was made, I believe, unanimously by the committee in my absence.

I think it is important for me to read subsection 2(5): "It is not within the power of the association to provide a service for its members that is not related to the carrying out of the objects of the association."

The amendment was obviously prompted by the sincere belief that it is in the public interest to attempt to restrict the association in relation to its activities, which would be largely or primarily those of governing the profession in the public interest as opposed to being in the business of providing services to its members.

This obviously is a difficult issue and, quite frankly, it is one that has attracted attention in the past. It should be pointed out, first of all, that amending the legislation at this time, in my view, could provide encouragement for some unnecessary controversy, and particularly litigation, with respect to an area in which it is very difficult to provide any sort of rigid demarcation.

For example, none of the other professional statutes that were reviewed by the Professional Organizations Committee, namely, those involving lawyers, architects or accountants, has a similar provision. The reason for this is that we recognize that the fundamental responsibility of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario is to govern the profession and that services to its members normally would be expected to be carried out by other professional associations. The example that is sometimes used is that the Law Society of Upper Canada governs the law profession, while the Canadian Bar Association provides certain services to its



members and, indeed, promotes the interests of its members as opposed to promoting the interests of the public.

As I recall, this issue was reviewed by Chief Justice McRuer in his landmark study of the public interest in the context of self-governing professions. He expressed the view that obviously this issue of providing services to the members is one in which it is very difficult to make a rigid line. While he recognized the fact that the governing bodies must be primarily involved in governing, it was impractical to suggest that under no circumstances would the governing body provide services to its members incidentally to its responsibilities as a governing body. Indeed, he recommended against any legislation in this respect.

**10:20 p.m.**

The Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario has acted very responsibly during the eight years this legislation has been in gestation, beginning, of course, with the Professional Organizations Committee's report. I can understand that they would harbour some concern about what they perceive to be a very significant vote of no confidence in what they have done to date. Actually, I think, the activities of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario have been carried on in such a way as to demonstrate to the public as a whole that they have been carried on in the public interest.

It is also important to note the association is very much aware of this issue. It has stated in correspondence it is not its intention to be engaged in the business of offering further member services, as it has expressed it.

I appreciate this is not accepted by the Canadian Society for Professional Engineers. I regret there is clearly some tension, to put it mildly, between these two professional organizations. However, having reviewed the matter in cabinet and caucus, it is our view it is not necessary in the public interest to impose a restriction that does not exist in other professional legislation and that has the potential of encouraging a lot of unnecessary friction if one attempts to apply a very rigid line.

The issue has commanded the attention of many members of the Legislature. In amending the legislation or in introducing the proposed amendment, I think it is fair to say members of this Legislature are concerned about this issue. The situation will be monitored by members of the Legislature in the public interest.

In the meantime, I hope the members of the APEO and the CSPE will be able to continue to

meet. The Ministry of the Attorney General will assist in any way it can in attempting to work out any remaining differences that may exist between these two professional groups. The public interest would be well served if that happens.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Chairman, the comments of the Attorney General in this matter are interesting. Members will recall this legislation is before us under the sponsorship of the Attorney General through the report of the Professional Organizations Committee. It was my understanding it was not before us on the basis of any government whip on the legislation.

After discussions were held, with submissions made on behalf of a variety of groups involved, the committee unanimously accepted these subsections with the hope that a clear distinction in duties and responsibilities would be seen by the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario on the one hand and by the Canadian Society for Professional Engineers on the other.

It is clear there has been a variety of pressures brought to bear in the last several weeks. But in committee, with the concurrence of the member for Oriole (Mr. Williams), the member for Prince Edward-Lennox (Mr. J. A. Taylor), both of whom are in the House this evening, and the member for Carleton East (Mr. MacQuarrie), the themes brought forward were to the effect that even though it was not in other professional legislation, we thought this distinction was the right thing to do.

I now understand, both through cabinet and through caucus, those changes are going to be reversed. If such is the case, all we can do is vote against the amendments. In the meantime, I think we should put on the record the comments that favoured the inclusion of these amendments in correspondence that has gone to members of the committee, and perhaps to all members of the House, sent out by letter of April 9 to the chairman of the standing committee on the administration of justice, the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Kolyn).

That letter, with its enclosures, refers to comments by Dr. Allan Leal as chairman of the Professional Organizations Committee, comments and a quotation from Mr. Justice McRuer's report on civil rights and even comments by the Attorney General when the bill was introduced into the House. Those comments generally refer to the requirement of a professional organization to look not to its own concerns but to the public interest. Indeed, the Attorney General stated:



"It is by now axiomatic that self-governing licensing bodies exist only to serve the public interest. The financial or other interests of their members should not be a concern. The economic benefits that may inure to the possessors of a licence are a possible byproduct of licensing, but they are not a reason for the Legislature conferring the licensing power on a self-governing organization."

That was what we strove to sort out when these amendments were suggested and passed in committee. The minor change seen in subsection 6 with respect to continuation of services was only to allow that continuity of certain group insurance and other beneficiary policies, which had been a program entered into long before group insurance was more generally available.

That was a minor aspect, something that had to have continuity, but something with which the APEO agreed it was not going to continue as a general service. The association was no longer in that kind of pension or other group insurance business, something many professions had tried some years ago with mixed success but still perhaps have an obligation to certain members who took that on.

That is why subsection 6 continued with the prospect that the sorting out of those continuing obligations was protected, had to be accommodated and was certainly not going to be expanded. The reason subsection 5 was placed before us was for an assurance that the APEO would, within its powers, deal with the sorts of things the McRuer commission and the Attorney General had referred to.

Since I have a few more remarks to make on this matter, it might be appropriate to adjourn the debate now.

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Chairman, before the adjournment of the debate, I would like to give notice that if this amendment passes, I will be

moving an amendment to section 8 of the bill when the appropriate time comes.

**Mr. Chairman:** Thank you.

**Mr. Renwick:** I also ask either you or the Speaker when he resumes the chair, to give us some indication from the government House leader when the debate on this bill will resume.

On motion by Hon. Mr. Wells, the committee of the whole House reported two bills without amendment and progress on a third bill.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I might indicate that I think the continuation of this debate in a definitive way will have to wait until we have our House leaders' meeting on Thursday, but I will say in a preliminary way it will probably be next Tuesday, a week from today.

**Mr. Renwick:** Next Tuesday.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Yes, not on Friday. We have legislation on Friday, probably the legislation standing in the name of the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations (Mr. Elgie).

**Mr. Renwick:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order just before we adjourn: I see the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Snow) up in the gallery. I understand he is discussing the question of whether or not there will be a GO station at De Grassi Street.

#### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN ORDERS AND NOTICES AND RESPONSE TO PETITION

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I also table the answers to questions 1, 89 to 117, 234, 248 and 258, the interim answers to questions 2 to 88, 118 to 233, 236 to 247 and 249 to 256, and the response to a petition presented to the House in sessional paper 36 [see Hansard for Friday, April 13].

The House adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

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# **Hansard**

## **Official Report of Debates**

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Thursday, April 12, 1984

Afternoon Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Thursday, April 12, 1984

The House met at 2 p.m.

Prayers.

## STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY

### WETLANDS POLICY

**Hon. Mr. Pope:** Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to introduce guidelines for wetlands management in southern Ontario, the first phase of a new wetlands policy for Ontario. The policy represents this government's commitment to responsible wetlands management for Ontario.

The guidelines I am introducing today are part of the process leading to a policy statement under the provincial Planning Act and will be finalized after appropriate testing, refinement and consultation with municipal officials. It is appropriate that these guidelines be introduced this week, for it is also National Wildlife Week and the 1984 theme focuses on wetlands and wildlife.

Wetlands, as members know, are an important natural resource for the people of Ontario, yet their value is often not recognized. Many people do not know that wetlands in their natural state maintain and improve water quality, help control flooding, provide habitat for fish and wildlife and contribute substantial social and economic benefits to our province.

The social and economic benefits include outdoor recreation activities such as hunting, fishing and birdwatching. Each year Ontario collects direct revenues exceeding \$20 million from the sale of hunting and fishing licences and from royalties from fur sales. Many of the wildlife species that provide the basis for this revenue live in wetlands habitat.

There are other social and economic benefits from wetlands. They are a source of many important resource products, such as fur, wood and wild rice, products valued at in excess of \$300 million a year. Wetlands also contribute to the ecological diversity of the landscape and provide habitat for several threatened and endangered species.

It is obvious that wetlands are essential natural resources to this province and, as members know, the importance of our remaining wetlands is increasing. Approximately 80 per cent of the

original wetlands in southern Ontario have been drained for a variety of uses, and the remaining wetlands area continues to be reduced in southern Ontario at a rate of one to two per cent annually.

The guidelines I am introducing today reinforce this government's commitment to carefully managing our remaining wetlands to meet both the present and long-term needs of the people of Ontario. We want to ensure that optimum economic and social benefits are obtained from the land with minimal disturbance to wetlands of provincial significance.

Of course, the wetlands guidelines will be used in conjunction with other provincial planning policies. We recognize that other important matters also must be considered in developing any provincial land use policies. These include housing, forestry, agriculture, mining, watershed management, tourism, recreation, environmental protection and the concerns of native people.

A key element to the guidelines is a provincial evaluation system that will identify and classify all wetlands in southern Ontario, ranking them into seven classes. The first two classes will designate wetlands of provincial significance. This system will be used as a tool or instrument at various levels in Ontario's planning process. My ministry will set aside \$250,000 annually over the next three to four years towards the target of completing the inventory and classification of southern Ontario's wetlands.

Proper classification according to significance will assist municipal governments, conservation authorities and other land use planning agencies when dealing with proposed alternative uses of land. Planners will be able to identify which wetlands in a given municipality are the most important to the province, to the region and to the local area.

As the members know, this policy was not formulated overnight. A great deal of work and careful planning was necessary to represent fairly all sides of this highly complex issue. Three years ago my ministry circulated a discussion paper entitled *Towards a Wetland Policy for Ontario*. We received more than 500 letters from the public, outlining their areas of concern and offering suggestions for a provincial wetlands



management program. These suggestions were taken into consideration during the process of policy development. We welcomed the high level of public input on this important matter.

Wetlands are truly unique areas having special recreational, educational, economic and scientific value to our society. The guidelines introduced today will ensure a balanced approach to land use planning where wetlands are concerned and will provide a fair and rational framework on which to base land use decisions.

## ORAL QUESTIONS

### HYDRO REACTORS

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy. The minister will be aware that in every reactor that has been checked, garter springs have been found out of place. That is, according to many people, one of the potential causes of the harm that happened in Pickering units 1 and 2, leading to the embrittlement and rupture of those tubes.

We know that roughly one third of the garter springs are out of place in Bruce reactor units 5, 6 and 7. Can the minister bring this House up to date on what is happening with respect to those inspections? Is he going to have to close those reactors? What is he going to do to rectify that problem?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, Ontario Hydro is in the process of determining a schedule by which all operating reactors will be checked during their out-of-service period. A schedule will be drawn up as to the appropriate time to put the garter springs in question back in place.

2:10 p.m.

**Mr. Peterson:** I just told the minister that we know those garter springs are out of place in those reactors. Whether or not the minister knows it, that is current knowledge.

What is the state of the garter springs in Bruce units 1 to 4 and Pickering units 4, 5 and 6? We do know that with every single reactor that has been tested, garter springs have been found out of place. That is a reality. Surely the minister must be persuaded of the urgency of having full knowledge of what is going on inside those reactors. I would like him to bring this House up to date on that schedule and what is happening with those reactors where we know the garter springs are out of place.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Of the reactors under construction, Pickering units 7 and 8, the relocation of garter springs is under way. In reactor 8, this will take place during 1984 and

there will be no delay in the in-service state of those two reactors.

In Bruce unit 6, the relocation of garter springs is very nearly completed. There has been a six-month delay in the in-service date of that reactor. In Bruce unit 5, there has been a three-month delay in the in-service date; but the garter spring relocation will be completed in 1984. In Bruce unit 7, the garter spring relocation will be completed during 1984, with zero months' delay in the in-service date.

Of the reactors in operation, Pickering units 3, 4, 5 and 6 are scheduled for garter spring relocation during 1986. Bruce units 1, 2, 3 and 4 are scheduled for relocation during 1986.

**Mr. Foulds:** Mr. Speaker, will the minister not agree that no other energy technology has run into such technical difficulties in our history? Will he not agree that it is time for him to call a full public inquiry into Ontario Hydro's mindless and boneheaded commitment to 70 per cent of our electricity being produced by nuclear power when the repair to nuclear power facilities in this province at Pickering units 1 and 2, for example, is going to cost us as much as the original construction of that plant? Is it not time to have a full public inquiry, since the lifetime of the facilities appears to be about 15 years instead of 30 years?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I would not agree with the honourable member. There are several other reactor technologies that have significantly more problems in terms of their in-service operation and in meeting the requirements—

**Mr. Foulds:** Nothing in the history of Hydro.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Nothing in the history of Hydro. That is a fair statement to make considering the fact that Ontario Hydro is dedicated to one technology, and that is the Candu technology. It has been an outstanding technology, and in contrast to the other technologies around the world, stands out superbly.

**Mr. Peterson:** What is the minister's estimate of the cost of replacing or changing the position of these garter springs that are out of place? What contingency fund has he put aside should that be necessary? It appears it is necessary. What is the cost of all that, and how will that impact on rates in this province?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** I have not established any contingency fund for those programs. I will make those inquiries of Hydro and report back to the honourable member.



## STUDENT ASSISTANCE

**Mr. Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education, and it concerns the cutting off of funding for students who want upgrading in our system.

The minister will be aware that in the past, students who were enrolled in pre-post-secondary courses at colleges were eligible for the Ontario student assistance program. She has cut them off. She changed that policy. Now students in those programs can only receive assistance under the Ontario special bursaries program.

Under OSAP and the grants program, the students' living costs were a consideration, but under the special bursaries program, only the educational, transportation and sometimes the baby-sitting costs are considered.

When her own Premier (Mr. Davis) has acknowledged that we have a major job to do in this province in upgrading skills and matching them better to the marketplace, can the minister explain why she would cut off funds to those people desperately in need of help to upgrade their own skills?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member fails to note for the remainder of members in the House that those people about whom he is speaking are already benefiting under support programs from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. They are receiving public funding for sustenance and maintenance, and we do try to assist them in the provision of support for education costs through the college system in the upgrading that is necessary.

I remind the member that the purpose of the Ontario student assistance program is to support students in the area of post-secondary education; it has not been designed in principle or in practice for lo these many years for the support specifically of upgrading. But with my colleague the Minister of Community and Social Services (Mr. Drea), we have looked very seriously at the way in which we can best support these young women primarily, many of whom have families, to ensure they are given an opportunity to upgrade their skills so they may participate in post-secondary programs or skill development programs that would assist them in finding appropriate employment. We shall continue to do that.

I am aware that there are some who are having some problems with this at the present time, and we are reviewing that policy as well.

**Mr. Peterson:** I say with great respect to the minister that she is factually incorrect. Only single mothers can receive some welfare as-

sistance; single fathers cannot. This is a desperate need, whether she knows it or not, at almost every community college in this province. They are pleading with her and they are sending letters to the Premier.

I can point out the situation at Fanshawe, for example, where they tell me from a survey taken last week that 60 students are on the waiting list; contacted regarding program openings, none of them could take advantage of those upgrading programs, because they could not afford it. There are thousands in this province in a similar situation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Peterson:** Surely the minister must review her policies immediately. She did do it in the past; she cut them off two years ago. The minister cut them off, no one one else; she changed the policy. That was wrong.

I am now asking the minister, will she change that policy to allow people to upgrade their skills to enter the marketplace?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I certainly applaud the crocodile tears of the Leader of the Opposition, but we have been looking at that policy very critically and very seriously for a significant period of time, and in fact we did provide additional funding through the bursary program for those students.

I remind the member there are certain principles that must be upheld, and if a policy is to be established for a program related to one specific group that does abrogate all the principles related to the total program, then one has to be very sure that one is doing this in the best possible way and for the best possible reasons.

I do not have letters from thousands. The member is suggesting I said that only single mothers were involved. I did not say that; he said it. Is he suggesting the program should be for single mothers only? If he is, why does he not stand up and say so?

**An hon. member:** Get serious.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I am serious; he is not.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, I learned of this problem when I was in London recently. The problem is exactly as it has been described. I raised it in the debate on the speech from the throne on Monday.

Does the minister not realize what is happening to a large number of these people, whether they happen to be single mothers or just unemployed young men without proper educa-



tion? They are going on waiting lists for Canada Employment and Immigration Commission programs. Those waiting lists, because of the limitation of the number of places for retraining that are made available, are as long as 16 to 18 months in London; similar sorts of things are happening around the province.

Will the minister please extend the time that OSAP coverage can be made available to these people so they have equal access to upgrading at the college level and do not have to go back and take credit in high schools, which takes much longer to do and which is a real deterrent to their upgrading themselves to get back into meaningful employment?

**2:20 p.m.**

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, again I would reiterate that the Ontario student assistance program is specifically designed for post-secondary education; it is not designed for upgrading to the level of secondary school graduation, which is what is required in almost all of these instances.

We have ensured that all boards of education are funded to provide those programs through the secondary school system, and there are significant numbers of students who, recognizing the need for further education, have dropped back into the education system, either on a regular daily basis or through night school programs, and are availing themselves of the totally free educational program in those circumstances in order to upgrade their skills. They are supported at the present time. If they are supported under general welfare benefits, then they do not qualify as post-secondary students.

If we have to modify that policy, it will be in the development of a further arrangement, rather than in attempting to destroy the OSAP principle in order to accommodate a group of students with very real needs. We have been trying to accommodate them through the most appropriate methods.

**Mr. Peterson:** I will take the minister back to her own area of responsibility. She kicked the props out from under these people who have such a desperate need by removing them from eligibility for OSAP. Then she replaced that assistance, to some extent at least, with the special bursaries program. She will be aware that in a number of community colleges across Ontario those funds have run out and there is a desperate need for that program, as inadequate as it was compared to the last one. She is the one who changed the policy and replaced it with nothing. Meanwhile, the need is desperate.

How does the minister respond to the statement by Mr. Jim Silverthorne, academic coordinator at Fanshawe College in London, who wrote to the Premier (Mr. Davis) and referred to people who are attempting to "return to school to acquire those basic academic skills...which will in turn lead to their primary goal...to get a job and get off the UIC and welfare rolls, to once more become useful members of society...and are, in effect, being told to give up...and to return to the self-degrading idleness of unemployment." How does the minister respond to that statement?

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I responded extremely positively by attempting to replace the basic skills development program through the college system, which was funded initially by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission. It was the feds who kicked the props out from under it two and a half years ago, not anybody else. We have been trying all that time to replace what the feds have removed.

I would be delighted if I thought the federal government was the least bit interested in providing us with assistance to ensure that basic skills development for those people could be supplied. I do not have that assurance at this time. Therefore, I am doing my very best to replace what has been removed.

#### VISITOR

**Mr. Speaker:** If I may have the concurrence of the House, I have just spied a member from the senior assembly who is undoubtedly joining us to pick up some pointers. I would ask all members to join me in welcoming the member for Yorkton-Melville, Lorne Nystrom, MP.

**Mr. Roy:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: I appreciate that it has been pointed out that the member is with us, because, before entering the assembly, Mr. Nystrom assured me there is no federal leadership in that party now in spite of rumours.

#### HYDRO RATES

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Energy will be aware that Ontario Hydro is continuing to spend huge amounts of public funds on the "Go Electric" campaign, in particular on that great "talking" furnace. It is all being done to get home owners to switch to electric heating.

I would like to ask the minister how he can justify that in the face of a 7.8 per cent increase in hydro rates this year and a proposed 9.1 per cent hike next year. By themselves, these increases



will cost the average home owner heating with electricity at least \$100 more next year. The "talking" furnace does not say anything about that.

I would like to ask why it is that the minister's friend, the "talking" furnace, is permitted deliberately to mislead the people of this province.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I am delighted the member for Welland-Thorold, my colleague for the next riding, has managed to highlight one of Hydro's most innovative and creative advertising programs. It is recognized by authorities in the business as being a very effective and potent advertising program.

I would only suggest to the member that Ontario Hydro, in competition with natural gas utilities, oil companies and any other suppliers of energy to home owners, can go on the open market and compete with an advertising program that highlights the opportunities available.

I want to remind the member, who at times appears to be very concerned about rural home owners, that in many cases they have no choice when they are moving off oil—I think his party has endorsed that concept on occasion—but to go to electrical energy.

**Mr. Swart:** It certainly is potent advertising, designed to suck in those home owners who do not know what is going to happen to hydro rates in the next year or two.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Swart:** With the present federal government policy on natural gas and the current worldwide oil price policies, the minister knows very well hydro rates in Ontario, with all the costly capital and repair problems, are going to increase much more rapidly than other forms of home heating. Why does he not tell the "talking" furnace to shut up? It is misleading and stupid advertising. Put an oily rag in its mouth. He can create his own hot air; he does not need a furnace to do it.

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** The member for Welland-Thorold is becoming very creative in his questions. I think there is a lesson here for the rest of us to learn. I only hope I can be as creative and as expetive in my answers to the member.

I want to draw to his attention that in the 10-year period from 1973 to 1982 the consumer price index rose 130 per cent, retail gasoline prices rose 250 per cent, home heating prices rose 400 per cent, natural gas prices rose 330 to 350 per cent depending on the difference in customer groups, and electricity prices rose 180 per cent.

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** I wonder why gas is still cheaper.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is that the question?

**Mr. J. A. Reed:** Mr. Speaker, has the minister examined those ads to ascertain for himself just how misleading they are? They set up the premise that somehow electric power is cheaper, when in fact it is not. It is also interesting to hear the minister say Hydro considers itself a competitor with these other energy forms, while at the same time and almost in the same sentence he says some consumers have no other option.

Will the minister please clarify what he is telling us, if he has examined those ads, to establish the fact that they are misleading to the people of Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** Mr. Speaker, I do not find the ads misleading at all. I think the ads invite consumers (a) to make a choice when they are considering converting the heating systems in their homes and (b) to participate in conservation.

**Mr. Swart:** In reply to my question, the minister quoted past costs of other forms of energy. It may be appropriate for him and members in the government to dwell in the past, but we are talking about now and the future when hydro costs are going to go up more rapidly than other forms of energy.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

2:30 p.m.

**Mr. Swart:** Why would he promote the use of hydro in this manner to increase generating capacity requirements ultimately when those capital requirements are so prohibitively expensive because of the dependence on nuclear? Or is he just trying to cover up at any cost his past overbuilding at any cost so the government will not look quite so bad in the immediate future?

**Hon. Mr. Andrewes:** I cannot accept the premise that nuclear costs are contributing to the increasing cost of electrical energy. I can produce a lot of the information that is available for the member's consideration if he wishes to see it. Ontario faced a choice back in the 1950s of moving either to a stronger nuclear component or to fossil-fired generation. It made the choice to go to a nuclear component. That was a wise choice. Hydro's rates today are among the lowest in North America. That decision was a prudent and wise one when it was made and will be continue to be in the next two decades.



## BARTON PLACE NURSING HOME

**Mr. McClellan:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Health with respect to Barton Place Nursing Home, arising out of the circumstances surrounding the death of a resident, Mr. Hayden. Has the minister familiarized himself with the results of the coroner's inquest into that very unfortunate death?

The circumstances involved an admission to a hospital in which the doctor indicated Mr. Hayden was suffering gross neglect and was in a terrible condition. In view of the fact that serious and ongoing problems at Barton Place Nursing Home were raised in this Legislature on February 21, April 25 and June 20, 1983, may I ask the minister whether he is now, at last, prepared to institute proceedings to revoke the nursing home licence at Barton Place?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, the honourable member ought to take into consideration, in whatever recommendation he may make to me on that matter, the fact that the ministry has already responded quickly to the allegations made with respect to the situation at Barton Place.

On hearing of those allegations and of the neglect, we took immediate action. A nurse inspector was dispatched to the home immediately to review the nursing care and to provide us with an in-depth assessment of the situation. Examinations of the residents were made on February 24 and 25 by a nurse inspector and a ministry long-term care consultant to ascertain whether there were any indications of neglect.

In addition, the medical history of the gentleman in question, especially because of the comment reported to us of the admitting physician at the hospital, was reviewed by a gerontologist, a medical consultant. In addition to that, a medical audit was done of residents throughout the home. This was conducted on March 15 and 16 by a nonministry gerontologist. That gerontologist is the medical director of acute geriatric care at Toronto Western Hospital and a medical consultant to the Metro Toronto homes for the aged. As well, a registered nurse was on that team.

No report of their findings will be made available at present, but I can assure the member no evidence of neglect flowed from those findings. A complete review by an external person to the ministry, a specialist in gerontology, of the medical record of the gentleman in question said there was no evidence to sustain the allegation that had been made.

**Mr. McClellan:** I do not know what evidence this ministry and this government need. Does the minister not consider the record at a single nursing home to be significant? The record is as follows. In 1982, 12 violations were recorded by the minister's inspectors on 12 separate occasions. In 1983, seven violations were recorded by his inspectors on six separate occasions.

In the annual nursing home inspection in September and October 1983, at the time Mr. Hayden was being admitted to hospital, a total of 38 violations of the act was recorded in the annual inspection report covering every single aspect of care in the home. During 1983 alone two revocation orders were issued against Barton Place Nursing Home and subsequently withdrawn.

How much evidence does the minister need that this nursing home does not intend to comply at any time with the Nursing Homes Act and the regulations?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** I think it is important to put the specific violations in perspective. In some cases there have been matters of very real concern. However, if compliance is made within a specified time frame, obviously the basis upon which action could be taken no longer exists.

I share with the member that I have experienced a great deal of frustration with respect to this nursing home. Either they will remain in compliance or I will obviously take appropriate action to ensure they will no longer slip out of compliance. I hope that message has already got through to them loud and clear. Their record has not been an enviable one and they will not be permitted to continue in that way. However, any time we have found noncompliance, they have complied within a reasonable time frame.

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, the minister is no doubt aware of complaints raised by people across Ontario about the situation in a number of nursing homes. As a follow-up to this, I refer the minister to a letter he received on March 27 from the nephew of a woman who is in a Mount Forest nursing home. He states, "It must seem to her, as it does to me, that after a lifetime of hard work she has been sentenced to some kind of bizarre prison without a trial." That is a complaint regarding a nursing home in Mount Forest.

Does the minister not agree with Concerned Friends of Ontario Citizens in Care Facilities that the time has come to appoint an independent arbiter outside the Ministry of Health who would be charged with the responsibility of investigating complaints, not only from the residents and their families, but also from organizations such



as Concerned Friends that have been impeded from receiving information to date by the bureaucratic intricacies of the Ministry of Health?

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to rise to debate the totally irrational and unfounded statement that crept in at the end of the question, so I will not.

I do not agree with Concerned Friends on that point. There are two things Concerned Friends is failing to take into consideration. It is already aware of one; it might not be aware of the other.

First, as of the beginning of this year, it became mandatory that each nursing home in this province provide for the establishment of a residents' council. I have a package of recommendations that I hope I will be in a position to make public shortly. Among those is an appeal process that will result in any unresolved concerns expressed by the residents' council being brought to an objective review process at the provincial level. I trust that will result.

2:40 p.m.

I should point out that the residents' council need not be composed only of residents of the nursing home. It is free to invite interested persons from the community to sit on the council. That could include members of the family or it could conceivably include interest groups, such as Concerned Friends, in cases where the residents deem that to be appropriate. Those steps we have taken and the ones we are planning to take ought to meet the concerns that have been identified by the citizens' group.

**Mr. McClellan:** The minister said in his answer there was absolutely no evidence of neglect. Has he read his own nursing home inspection report? Page 8 of the annual inspection report, under "Violation," states, "Not all residents who require nursing measures to prevent and care for decubitus ulcers were provided with such measures." Mr. Hayden was admitted to hospital suffering from such severe ulcers that he was described by the physician who admitted him as "being in a state of gross neglect." The physician testified at the inquest, "I would not want my worst enemy to look like that."

How much evidence does the minister require? Does he not know reports have been submitted to his ministry since October 1973? I challenge the minister to get up in his place and tell this House Barton Place Nursing Home has not been in violation of the act each and every year from 1973 through 1983. I challenge him to go back to his records and tell us that nursing home has not

been in violation each and every year for the last 10 years, and continues to thumb its nose at the minister because it knows with absolute certainty, as does everybody else in Ontario, he is not prepared to enforce the Nursing Homes Act in this province.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Again, that latter gratuitous comment is utter nonsense.

**Mr. McClellan:** Two revocation orders were withdrawn last year.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** Even that member knows the steps that have been taken over the last six months during my still rather brief tenure in this ministry to beef up the inspection and prosecute any violations under the Nursing Homes Act. He initially asked me a question about a specific case and when he got an answer that more than adequately dealt with the concern he raised, he squirmed out from under that and started talking about a 10-year history.

**Mr. McClellan:** The answer did not deal with my question at all. I know a coverup when I see it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. Mr. Norton:** The member can squirm all he likes, but he is going to get forthright and honest answers from me. If he wants to twist and turn and try to change his original question he can do so, but next time he should ask the question he intends to ask when he stands up.

**Mr. McClellan:** The minister is not prepared to do anything. I know a coverup when I see it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

#### HOTEL LABOUR DISPUTE

**Mr. Mancini:** Mr. Speaker, since the Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) is absent, I would like to direct my question to the Deputy Premier of our province. Can he inform the House whether he has been following the unfortunate strike now taking place by the employees of 10 of Toronto's major hotels? Can he give us any information on how the situation is proceeding and whether the impasse is soon to be resolved?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Mr. Speaker, my colleague the Minister of Labour is expected in the House before the end of question period. It is my understanding he is meeting with the executive of the Ontario Federation of Labour this afternoon.

On the basis of information I have, mediation was last held on Monday, April 9, and was followed by strike action on Tuesday, April 10. I am also advised that the director of mediation services is currently monitoring the situation



very closely and remaining in contact with the parties. He will reconvene the mediation effort when it appears appropriate to do so. We are leaving that as a matter of his judgement call at the moment.

**Mr. Mancini:** I did not quite hear the Deputy Premier's answer. Did he say mediation is not now taking place and that it is going to reconvene?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** The director of mediation services is monitoring the situation at present. He is remaining in contact with the parties, and there will be a reconvening of meetings when he feels it is appropriate under the circumstances.

**Mr. Mancini:** I find this almost unbelievable. There are 3,500 people on strike, 10 of the major hotels here in this city are not being properly operated, and we hear from the Deputy Premier that mediation may be reconvened. This is a very serious matter. I want to know from the Deputy Premier whether he and the Minister of Labour will get involved immediately to have this strike resolved to the best possible conclusion.

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** My colleague the Minister of Labour has the utmost confidence in his director of mediation services.

**Mr. Mackenzie:** Mr. Speaker, I am wondering if the Deputy Premier would not consider it his obligation to look into this particular dispute in view of the number of the employees who are women. The chambermaids in many of those hotels are making as little as \$8,000 a year for a full 40-hour week and in some cases are making less than they would if they were on welfare or assistance with their families. Does the minister not think that is deplorable and does that not give him reason to involve himself in this dispute?

**Hon. Mr. Welch:** Whatever anyone's personal views may be with respect to the adequacy of compensation or whatever else is at present the subject matter of the dispute, I would feel the honourable member who just asked me that question would feel the integrity of the collective bargaining system is perhaps of paramount importance at this time and that this matter is the subject of negotiation between the parties.

[Later]

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: My colleague the member for Essex South asked the Deputy Premier a question about the ongoing hotel strike, and I thought the Deputy Premier indicated the Minister of Labour might have a statement to make. I am sure we would give him unanimous consent to make it.

**Mr. Speaker:** No, I do not think he indicated that. He indicated the Minister of Labour would appear and he did appear.

#### FAMILY MAINTENANCE ORDERS

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Attorney General. In the speech from the throne, the government said "a strict enforcement of family maintenance orders will be instituted." This appears to be an admission of the government's weak enforcement in the past and is borne out by the statistics published one year ago in the *Globe and Mail*, which estimated that \$42 million in unpaid maintenance orders were outstanding in Ontario.

In view of the very serious hardship that this failure to enforce maintenance orders imposes on an estimated 40,000 women and thousands of children in this province, will the Attorney General indicate precisely what measures he is planning in order to institute strict enforcement of maintenance orders, or is this part of the empty rhetoric in the throne speech?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, the member appears to harbour a little confusion about what the role of the government is in relation to enforcing maintenance orders which are the result of litigation between two individuals. Much of the problem is related to the fact that in the very mobile society in which we live, it is often very difficult for individuals to trace their spouses or former spouses.

In any event, notwithstanding the fact that fundamentally or legally the responsibility has always been for the individual to enforce, or to go to court to enforce, his or her own orders obtained as an individual from the courtroom, we in Ontario have recognized that this is a very significant problem and believe the government can play an increasing role in assisting individuals to enforce their individual orders, although it is not primarily the government's responsibility.

Ontario, I am proud to say, has been a leader in this country in developing concepts such as automatic enforcement of maintenance payments. Right now we are involved in the development of a system whereby there will be a national registry where it will be easier for citizens of all provinces to locate their defaulting spouses. We intend to enhance considerably our resources with respect to the automatic enforcement of these maintenance orders in order to alleviate this problem.

This is certainly an issue about which I have had many discussions with the Deputy Premier



(Mr. Welch), who has a real interest in these issues. I can fairly state that before the end of the spring we will have some quite significant initiatives to announce.

**2:50 p.m.**

**Ms. Bryden:** The Attorney General seems to resort to saying Ontario is a leader in family law whenever we ask questions about its deficiencies, but other provinces are passing us by and have already instituted methods of contacting defaulting spouses.

When he brought in a minor amendment last fall to the Family Law Reform Act which made it somewhat easier to attach pension payments for the enforcement of a support order, I moved an amendment that would have permitted an attachment order to be placed on pension entitlements prior to the payout of the pensions.

In view of the recent case of Simon versus Simon in the Supreme Court of Ontario, is the Attorney General now ready to enact an amendment that would make it unnecessary for someone in the position of Mrs. Jean Simon to have to go through the expense of two court hearings in order to get her maintenance order of \$20,000 enforced against the pension entitlement of her spouse? She anticipated and had reason to believe he would likely skip the country before his pension started to pay out, and he had no other assets that could be attached by her. Is the Attorney General prepared to consider that kind of amendment?

It is now 15 months since he promised us his package of amendments to the act. Will he table those amendments and the report of his internal review committee as soon as possible so we can see exactly what amendments he is bringing in and then have public hearings to bring out all the deficiencies in the act and, we hope, have them corrected?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** I am not sure I am familiar with the case of Simon versus Simon. I cannot actually address the facts of that case.

As I explained to the member earlier in relation to her amendment, the garnishment of the capital in relation to a pension could create a good deal of chaos throughout pension plans. It could be an issue of some concern. Certainly, it is an issue of great concern to labour unions. I would suggest that the member might discuss some of these issues with those who have the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of pension plans from which so many of our workers in the province benefit. I would think the member would want to be a little careful as to the amount of chaos she would want to inject into that process if she

undermines the financial integrity of these pension plans.

As I said before, we will be introducing amendments during the spring that address most, but not all, of the issues about which the member is concerned.

**Mr. Wrye:** Mr. Speaker, the Attorney General has pointed out that he is going to bring in a package of amendments to the Family Law Reform Act some time this spring, hopefully before the middle of June, which will presumably take us further ahead in terms of the proper division of assets within a marriage.

Given the problems we have right now in just enforcing the current maintenance orders, can the Attorney General indicate to us specifically what he plans to do, what he is prepared to come forward with to ensure there is going to be an enforcement of those maintenance orders and when is he going to do that?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, I think I may be repeating what I said earlier. As I have said on other occasions, Ontario has provided a good deal of leadership with respect to the development of a national registry. We are also going to enhance our capacity for the automatic enforcement of these maintenance and support payments through our courts, and I have made that very clear.

The specific initiatives in this context, or the details of what we are going to do, of course, will be announced when we are ready to put them in place.

## PAROLE PROCEDURES

**Mr. Kennedy:** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Attorney General with respect to Richard Stevens's killing of Joseph Muglia.

According to press reports, Stevens was released after serving seven months of a 36-month sentence. As I understand this case, the original sentence was 21 months and he was to be eligible for parole after seven months; this was appealed and the sentence was raised to 36 months. Yet, according to the news reports, the Stevens gentleman was still released after having served only seven months. As a result of the appeal, the sentence was to be in penitentiary.

Was any time ever served in penitentiary? Can the Attorney General explain why, having gone through the appeal process, the time in prison turns out to have been the same as before the appeal? After having gone through all that exercise, it seems to me the parole board ignored the new judgement following the appeal.



**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Mr. Speaker, I read a newspaper report today to indicate that this individual had not been released but had been placed on a form of day parole, during which he must report back to a halfway house every evening.

Obviously, we were interested in this particular case because the crown appealed the original sentence, as the honourable member stated, feeling it was inadequate, and the Court of Appeal, as the member has correctly stated, did increase it to 36 months.

I am not advised as to the reasons for the National Parole Board permitting this day parole after only seven months of a 36-month sentence. It is obviously an issue that concerns us, because certainly it does appear to send out a message that, notwithstanding the view of the Court of Appeal in relation to the desirability of increasing the sentence, the National Parole Board would appear, at least on the surface, to be frustrating the view of our Court of Appeal.

This issue of the extent to which the National Parole Board does allow this form of parole at a relatively early stage during the sentence is becoming of increasing concern to all citizens, and I expect this is a matter that will continue to be debated, certainly at the national level, where of course the parole legislation has to be amended if there are going to be amendments.

All I can say to the member is that I was a little concerned with this newspaper report, and I intend to speak to my criminal law advisers to ascertain whether or not we are able to obtain any information in relation to this decision.

**3 p.m.**

**Mr. Kennedy:** According to the press report, the Attorney General's aide, Mr. Allen, heard complaints about "the inadequacy of sentences (and) in hundreds of cases a year we appeal" sentences. It seems to me this just reflects that the easy parole judicial system is pretty soft and that the judicial system is not working properly.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Kennedy:** Will the Attorney General have this whole situation reviewed with a view to having more evenhanded justice and thereby reflect the public will?

**Hon. Mr. McMurtry:** Our crown counsel will continue to launch and argue appeals where we believe the sentences are inadequate.

#### ALGONQUIN COLLEGE

**Mr. Roy:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question to my dear friend Mme le ministre, the Minister of Education. My question deals with—

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I am listening.

**Mr. Boudria:** It was not derogatory, Bette.

**Mr. Roy:** I just said "Mme le ministre."

**Mr. Speaker:** Question, please.

**Mr. Roy:** I do not want to be nasty. The last time we were nasty she left, and I want want her to stay.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question.

**Mr. Roy:** My question to the minister has to do with the continuing problem of Algonquin College and the concern that is expressed throughout the community of eastern Ontario about this.

Why will the minister not accept the very sensible suggestion of my colleague the member for Renfrew North (Mr. Conway) to have the Provincial Auditor review the administrative and financial practices of Algonquin College? Not only might some answers be given to the community about the practices that are going on there, but other community colleges that have expressed some concern about the forgiving of more than \$2 million might also get some explanation or at least some reason why this situation took place so that it will not be repeated in the future.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, as I think I explained earlier, we will be seriously considering a range of options once the police investigations into this matter are completed. I believe that will be relatively soon.

However, I think the honourable member should know that just the day before yesterday, Algonquin College was fortunate enough to hire from the ministry one of the best systems analysts, management individuals, accountants or auditors we have ever had within the system. He will become the vice-president of administration at Algonquin. I believe that if anyone can straighten out the matters at Algonquin College, Mr. Myron will be able to do so.

I am aware that with every effort it expends the board is attempting to ensure the management of that college comes into the most appropriate structure. We are requiring of them a great deal of information regarding the activities that are being carried on by the college.

I am aware as well that concern has been expressed by some very responsible citizens who have made up that college board and who feel it is time members of political parties and other groups stop harassing the members of the board of governors and allow them to get on with the job they are trying to do, at no cost to this province but on behalf of the people of this



province, to ensure the viability of that institution.

**Mr. Roy:** The minister and the board of governors understand each other very well. She will understand there has been some criticism, and my colleagues have expressed it, that sometimes with the boards of governors there was not sufficient communication or interchange with the community.

Will there be some structure set up whereby concerned citizens and even politicians may be allowed to make certain representations in a way that would be organized and systematic? With that, we would not have the sorry spectacle, as she has mentioned, of the member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) pontificating and trying to grandstand at a board of governors' meeting with the result that one member has quit and two have threatened to quit.

The minister will understand that the director, Mr. Denzil Doyle, is the type of individual we want on the board of governors of that college and that we need to stop this type of grandstanding by the member for Ottawa Centre.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** I remind the honourable members that the board of governors of that institution had provided a mechanism to allow the member in question to make a presentation, but certain rules were to be followed. The member chose not to follow any of the rules that were established, which were reasonable; they were simply that his brief be submitted in advance so the board could be prepared to understand what it was he was questioning.

Since the member refused to do that, the board's decision was simply that if their rules were not appropriate for him, it was not appropriate for them to listen to him on that occasion. Members do have the opportunity to make presentations, as do all members of the public, if such opportunity is needed, because meetings of boards of governors of colleges within this province are open, public meetings, except in very specific circumstances, which I believe the member recognizes.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the minister's statements about the board, is she aware that Mr. Doyle in resigning wrote an article in the Ottawa Citizen in which he said the management problems at Algonquin dated back to the 1960s? What does she think of a board of governors that could have tolerated those management problems going on over all that time? Does the minister believe that over this period of time the board of governors was doing an effective job? Mr. Doyle says the management was a

chronic and continuing problem over the course of 15 or 16 years.

I ask the minister this question because I would like her to say what she thinks should be done about Algonquin College when those problems have been allowed to persist by the board of governors and by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities while at the same time people in the Ottawa area find their confidence in Algonquin College seriously shaken by the inability of either the ministry or the board to get Algonquin's problems sorted out.

**Hon. Miss Stephenson:** Mr. Speaker, I believe the current board of governors has been diligent in its pursuit of its responsibilities, and I certainly cannot fault it at all at this point. I do believe there have been difficulties within the administration that need to be corrected. It is also my firm belief that the board is attempting, diligently now, to resolve those difficulties within the administration so this institution will receive the kind of guidance it deserves.

I believe that what is necessary right now is the full co-operation of everyone related to that college—staff, faculty, students, board of governors, administration and the members of the public—to encourage and assist the board to resolve the problems and to help the college to remain a viable institution providing the kinds of programs it should for the Ottawa area.

#### TRAINING FOR CRANE OPERATORS

**Mr. Wildman:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour regarding the lack of training for crane operators at Tecumseh Metal Products in Windsor.

Can the minister explain why his ministry is unprepared to order job training for coil hoist operators at Tecumseh Metals? Does he support the statement by his inspector from last fall that he would not order training because, "due to previous work experiences and learning abilities, no two workers would necessarily require the same amount of training," and "no matter how much training a crane operator received, he from time to time could encounter a lifting problem never experienced before at this plant"?

Is that not rather ludicrous? Is it not like saying that since doctors have different learning abilities, there should be no minimum training and because they might encounter new problems from time to time in their practice, there is no reason to require minimum training for them?

If the minister takes that position, can he explain why he has not as yet ordered training in that facility and why the joint health and safety



committee at that plant has not met for almost five months?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, I am afraid this particular circumstance just does not come immediately to mind. I will have to follow up on the question, and I will report to the honourable member tomorrow.

3:10 p.m.

#### POLLUTION CONTROL EXEMPTIONS

**Ms. Copps:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order relating to procedure. Earlier this week, in Hamilton, a meeting was held by the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt) on the subject of extending exemptions on pollution control orders for Stelco. A number of members, including myself, have expressed concern about the fact that the minister gave no advance notice to any members about the decision to request an extension on a pollution control order exemption for Stelco.

I wonder whether the Speaker might provide us with any direction as to whether members in whose ridings the major Stelco factories exist, and other members in the area, could expect to receive prior notice of Environment meetings over such important issues. The whole community was caught by surprise, it seems to me, and the ministry has the responsibility at least to inform the members about meetings on such serious issues.

**Mr. Speaker:** First, that is not a point of order you rose on. Second, it is beyond the jurisdiction and authority of the Speaker to do what you have asked. The only way to do that, or to make sure it happens, is for you to contact the minister and make him aware of your concerns.

**Ms. Copps:** With respect to carrying out our duties as members, I think we have to be apprised of these situations to be able to act, that is all.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

#### PETITIONS

##### EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from a number of constituents from my riding in east Toronto.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of

occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Kolyn:** Mr. Speaker, I have several petitions to present on behalf of the member for Timiskaming (Mr. Havrot), the member for Northumberland (Mr. Sheppard) and the member for York North (Mr. Hodgson).

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."

**Mr. Conway:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a number of electors in the great riding of Renfrew North, I have a petition to present on the same subject and in the same language as the petitions presented by my colleagues the member for Lakeshore (Mr. Kolyn) and the member for Scarborough West (Mr. R. F. Johnston).

**Ms. Bryden:** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by a number of residents from the ridings of Beaches-Woodbine and Don Mills. I support this petition, which reads:

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, beg leave to petition the parliament of Ontario as follows:

"Whereas women in Ontario still earn only 60 per cent of the wages of men; whereas women are still concentrated in a very small number of occupations; and whereas unanimous approval of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value was expressed in the Ontario Legislature in October 1983,

"We petition the Ontario Legislature to amend Bill 141 to include equal pay for work of equal value and to introduce mandatory affirmative action."



## SALE OF BEER AND WINE

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, this is a different petition.

"To the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor in Council and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We, the undersigned, petition the government and the Legislative Assembly to support the private member's bill of Don Boudria, MPP, to permit the sale of beer and wine in small, independent grocery stores."

M. le Président, j'ai une pétition à présenter, pétition adressée au Lieutenant Gouverneur en Conseil et à l'Assemblée législative de l'Ontario:

"Nous soussignés, par la présente pétition, demandons à l'Assemblée législative et au gouvernement d'appuyer le projet de loi du député Don Boudria, qui permettrait aux petites épiceries indépendantes de vendre la bière et les vins de l'Ontario."

M. le Président, la pétition est signée par 241 personnes.

The petition is signed by 241 people. There are several more to come.

## REPORT

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS AND OTHER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

Mr. Sheppard from the standing committee on regulations and other statutory instruments presented the committee's report and moved its adoption:

Your committee begs to report the following bills without amendment:

Bill Pr1, An Act to revive Moramos Holding Club of Essex.

Bill Pr4, An Act to incorporate Central Baptist Seminary and Bible College.

Bill Pr11, An Act to incorporate the Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation.

Bill Pr18, An Act to revive Zeta Psi Elders Association of Toronto.

Your committee would recommend that the fees, less the actual cost of printing, be remitted on the bills.

Motion agreed to.

## MOTION

### REPORTS, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE OMBUDSMAN

Hon. Mr. Wells moved that the recommendations contained in the special report and the 10th report of the select committee on the Ombudsman be referred to the committee of the whole

House for consideration this evening, order number 20 to be considered first, followed by order number 19.

Motion agreed to.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILL

### LIQUOR LICENCE AMENDMENT ACT

Mr. Cassidy moved, seconded by Mr. Laughren, first reading of Bill 35, An Act to amend the Liquor Licence Act.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Speaker, the best way to describe this bill is to say that it is the brewpub bill for Ontario. It is aimed to ensure there is more diversity in the kinds and quality of beer available on the market, to encourage small businesses to respond to the diversity of consumer taste, to create employment and to encourage tourism in Ontario.

Currently, the Liquor Licence Act makes it impossible for a small brewery to be operated in conjunction with a pub, lounge or other licensed premise. As a consequence, it is not possible for a microbrewery which is selling on the same premise to operate. The bill will make that possible by a small change within the legislation. This will encourage not only real ale but also a great diversity in types of beer in Ontario.

**3:20 p.m.**

This bill has the support of a lobby group of consumers known as the Campaign for Real Ale, which is dedicated to ensuring a broader variety of beer on the Ontario market. The bill limits this privilege to manufacturers of less than 2,000 hectolitres of beer annually. For those who wish to understand the metric system, a hectolitre is equal to 100 litres, and 2,000 hectolitres is equal to 24,452 cases of beer. It is a small business bill.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BUSINESS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Mr. Cousens, seconded by Mr. Barlow, moved resolution 5:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government, recognizing that the prosperity and job creation capability of the Ontario economy are directly linked to the province's competitive position in the international marketplace and the corresponding performance of Ontario's export trade sector, should therefore further attempt to co-ordinate and consolidate existing and disparate ministry export programs, product-promotion initiatives and technology improve-



ment efforts under a comprehensive, unified and progressive export development strategy.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would just remind the honourable member he has up to 20 minutes for his presentation and he may reserve any portion of that time for a windup.

**Mr. Cousens:** I would like to reserve any portion remaining at the end of my remarks for a follow-up later on.

With the recession behind us now and with recovery under way, we can begin to look to the future with more optimism. There is every reason for this province and this country to be confident we will continue to thrive and prosper for the remainder of this century and well into the next.

Canada has a competitive edge in human resources and natural resources and is a leader in world-class technology. What we now need is more political will to take advantage of the great opportunities existing in the political marketplace.

The rapid pace of development we are witnessing throughout the world today is unprecedented in the history of mankind. The global economic structures are undergoing a massive transformation. Moreover, this transformation is creating new needs and demands. Through Canada's people, resources and skills, we are in an optimal position to meet these challenges. For these reasons, our economy appears poised to become a winner on the international economic stage.

Thus, today I wish to address the importance of further co-ordinating and consolidating Ontario's export development programs and strategy. This government recognizes that it is only with increased export trade that Canada will continue to have a prosperous, dynamic economy. As a province, we must address the realities of the changing world economy. No longer can we assume that what made sense economically in the past will make economic sense in the future. Ontario must come to grips in a positive way with the significant structural changes occurring throughout the global economy. We must continue, as this government is doing, to make economic issues a priority.

In the minds of Ontario citizens, the economy remains at the forefront of the public policy agenda. After the worst recession since the Great Depression, this province is now witnessing a most encouraging recovery. At the end of last year the national inflation rate had declined to 5.8 per cent per annum for 1983. Ontario's unemployment rate had dropped to 8.9 per cent. In November of last year the manufacturing sector

alone had 79,000 more jobs than it did a year earlier. Our gross national product increased by eight per cent in the third quarter of 1983.

In large part the fiscal policies of this government have been responsible for this recovery. It is through strong and effective leadership that this province has been able to achieve a growing economy. Despite this encouraging news, there still remains a high degree of economic uncertainty. We remember what preceded the present recovery. Each one of us can identify with all those people who have not yet felt its positive repercussions.

The despair caused by the recession is something we must all work towards avoiding. No one wants to see the indignity faced by so many Canadians because of double-digit unemployment rates or the value of hard-earned dollars eroded by climbing inflation. No one wants to see the economy in a downturn position again. We all know this does not have to happen.

Ontario is fortunate to be one of the world's most richly endowed regions, but we cannot rest on our laurels alone. This province must take hold of its current recovery. With our diverse areas of expertise, we can begin to secure a long-term solution for a stable, prosperous and dynamic economy.

Immediate and decisive action is required to spearhead Canada's drive towards a larger and more competitive role in the world economy. We must recognize that major adjustments are required in the Ontario economy if we are to survive in an increasingly competitive world. Our economic horizons must shift beyond the borders of Ontario and Canada. The globe must become our marketplace.

I am not forgetting that barriers are being dropped and there is increased competition here. We face great challenges. As a government and a province, we must recognize and facilitate the adjustments which will be required in our economic structure. Our objective of increased international competitiveness is dependent on such action.

It is true that such economic adjustments will have major implications that will reverberate throughout our social structure. For some, there may be temporary hardships associated with the pursuit of our long-term economic goals. This government will attempt to minimize that.

I am proud our government has addressed this challenge. It has been a leader among the provinces in Canada, stressing the need to become more important in this global market. Our own Premier (Mr. Davis) supported the



annual Premiers' communiqué on the economy, which identified improvements in Canada's international competitiveness, expanded international marketing activities and the adoption of the manufacturing and resource sectors to changing world economic priorities. All of these became key elements in a comprehensive economic recovery strategy.

The Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) has made a concerted effort to establish the infrastructure necessary to foster increasing competitiveness in Ontario. Last fall his ministry developed an export strategy designed to promote Ontario goods and services. It set a goal of increasing this province's exports to \$60 billion from \$40 billion, and that should happen by the end of 1987. He has special programs—the export success fund, export marketing group and an international marketing interim program. All of these are being positively received by the marketplace.

Making Ontario more competitive in the global sense is a vital step to our provincial wellbeing. The world market is such that Canadians must build on our advantages and strengths. We cannot pretend to be insular. We cannot just have protective policies. The realities are such that increased export trade is the only viable solution for a strong economy and an improved standard of living. For this reason, I am truly hopeful this House will unanimously endorse this resolution.

To realize our trading objectives, we must improve our competitive edge and productivity. Improving our competitive edge means concentrating on what we do best. We must recognize Canadian manufacturing can no longer compete with some of the mass-produced products of the Third World. Further, Canada must recognize the limitations of its domestic economy.

The international marketplace opens many doors for our internationally competitive products. However, developing government policies which promote innovative, specialized and technically advanced products with a high value-added component is one feasible method through which government can assist. Our six high-technology centres are examples of where our government is doing something concrete and worth while to accelerate the whole process of manufacturing and improving productivity in this province.

I am pleased to be on the board of directors of the Ontario Centre for Advanced Manufacturing. I know that some of the 60,000 people who have gone through that centre are starting to think

seriously about doing something about their own manufacturing businesses.

**3:30 p.m.**

We in this province have an important task to do to address that global challenge. We need to develop innovative products and to streamline our factories; we have to do everything we can. But one of the basic things we need to do is to improve the productivity of the people who are already out there working.

In the last few years it has been fascinating to see how the productivity in this country has been getting worse. In a recent study completed by the prestigious European Management Forum, the rating of Canada's international competitiveness had dropped to 11th position in 1983 from sixth position in 1982 and fifth in 1981. Such a performance is not going to give Ontario a place in the winner's circle.

This House will agree that Ontario is in a position to change this. Economists forecast that the remainder of this decade should bring sustained economic growth to Canada. We want to be part of that growth and leaders in making that growth happen. We want to have more productivity and become part of the real decision-making process that is going to make Ontario and Canada one of the great, leading countries of the industrial world. But governments and agencies must work together to make this happen. Governments must begin to think more seriously of establishing an economic climate, an environment where business can prosper and make a profit and contribute to the wellbeing of society.

One of the important things our province can do to improve productivity is to concentrate on strengthening our technological foundation and base through our organizations such as the York Technology Association, of which I happen to be co-chairman along with the president of MDS Canada. This is an association of some 100 companies in northeast Metro and south York region coming together to try to do something to improve the opportunities for high-technology businesses.

There are very great success stories there but we need to make more success stories. Perhaps what needs to happen is some of the industrialists of our country have to start contributing more to the decision-making process of government so the government can then start to take more advantage of what the high-technology industry and our people out there whom we are trying to serve really want. Government cannot do it



alone; we need to involve the people of industry far more.

I do not think there is any doubt we have to take greater advantage of our educational institutions and establish links with the educational industry, as we know it—where we have \$150-million labs at the University of Toronto—to get it out there working with the small entrepreneur and the small businessman to develop new gadgets, new devices so they can succeed on the Canadian and international market.

The York Technology Association has already established linkages with the University of Toronto through initial discussions which could lead to even more advancement of the educational community getting out there to work with the world of industry.

One need not understand more than basic economics to realize that greater product demand means economic growth, more jobs and a better standard of living. Ontario cannot just look towards improving efficiency and productivity in our existing industries. Government must foster the development and growth of new internationally competitive industries. The possibilities in this area are limited only by our creativeness and our innovativeness.

Small companies everywhere are finding demand for specialized products and changing markets. Opportunities exist in largely unthought-of markets such as the Third World. The 94 countries the World Bank classifies as developing countries have a total gross domestic product of more than \$2.4 trillion. These nations are urbanizing and industrializing at a phenomenal pace. Thus, they demand modern technology to help them cope with the problems they are having.

What we need to do in Ontario is to find the niches, so we can then go out into this world of free enterprise and help our businesses and industry not only to survive today, but to prepare for the future where they can then succeed as they have never succeeded.

We have examples where the Urban Transportation Development Corp. project is something that could be used in other parts of the world. We should push it, sell it, promote it. Ontario's opportunities do not end with the developing countries alone. Opportunities are everywhere to develop our manufacturing and service sectors to assist us in becoming a major player in the whole world arena.

This past week Canadians were thrilled when the Canadarm was again used in an exciting project in outer space. It was an example of

Canadian technology being used in a marvellous way. If de Havilland survives, and I hope it does survive, we will have the Dash-8 and the expertise behind the Dash-8 in this province and in this country. It should be sold not only here but around the world.

We see companies such as Geac Canada Ltd. and Lanpar Ltd. in my own riding, computer companies succeeding in the world marketplace with Canadian design, Canadian software and Canadian innovation. Ontario needs to gain a larger share of the international market. We must promote our products and our services to the rest of the world.

It means we should participate in trade shows. There was a huge trade show in Japan last year. It was the annual electronics show. For once Ontario was there. Our own Ministry of Industry and Trade is supporting this kind of endeavour. The fair in Hanover is on now and Ontario is represented. This is the kind of thing that is beginning, but we must maintain momentum so the people of our province can take advantage of those opportunities.

The opportunities are virtually limitless. Nations around the world crave the products of Ontario and the skills that are in Ontario products, in Ontario people and in Ontario services. They require these things and it is for us to sell them.

We already know Ontario is doing a great deal in these areas. I am saying it must do more. It must find more opportunities. It must find ways in which we can promote Ontario to potential markets. As I said before, the government must provide the political will to make sure this happens.

With this resolution I am hoping we will see co-operation begin to take place, where all parties in this House can be like all governments in this country, working together to make this country one of the greatest countries in the world. I think it is great now, but to face up to the opportunities that exist throughout the whole world we need to work together with strategies co-ordinated by the federal and provincial governments and go forward with something that will bring more success.

If Ontario reaches its export goal of \$60 billion in trade by the end of 1987, it will gain 150,000 new jobs and add \$1.5 billion in provincial revenue. That is one of the goals our own Minister of Industry and Trade has.

We need to see ourselves working together in a common goal that leads to success and leads to a reward we are going to need to have. Unless we



do this, our own standard of living will not be maintained. It will be eroded by other countries that have started this process before us.

**Mr. Sweeney:** Mr. Speaker, I am a little unsure exactly what the member had in mind when he put this resolution forward. I have no doubt whatsoever of his own personal feelings on this issue. As a matter of fact, I compliment him for the work he is doing in his own area with respect to the issue and with respect to upgrading industry in the new technologies. He is known for that and is complimented for it.

The resolution itself leaves me a little perplexed. After having heard the member, I must say my perplexity has not changed. His comments were a series of generalities; there was nothing specific. The comments seemed to repeat what the ministry had indicated it is already doing and supporting. Perhaps in his last four minutes the member can be a little more specific and indicate exactly what he had in mind here.

One would certainly get the impression from the resolution that the member was unhappy with what is happening now. He refers, and I use his own words, to "disparate ministry export programs, product promotion initiatives and technology improvement efforts." After reading this resolution, one would be led to believe he had some real concerns about the effectiveness of the export programs, product promotion and technology improvements. Well he should, because we certainly have some concerns about what this government is doing and what it should be doing.

I certainly agree with him that the future economic health of Ontario and of Canada, and the job opportunities in Ontario and in Canada, depend to a very large extent on the ability we have to create more trade opportunities. As a matter of fact, what is not well known is that Ontario-Canada as a whole, but Ontario in particular—is more dependent upon trade than almost any other jurisdiction in the western world.

What is often not known is that Japan, which has a great international reputation for expending a great deal of energy and a great deal of its funds in trade, in fact exports only 12 per cent of all its manufactures. It manufactures a great deal and so that 12 per cent is a great deal, but what it also suggests to us is that 88 per cent of everything it makes is absorbed by its own domestic market, whereas we here in Ontario export 33 per cent, one third, of everything we manufacture. We have to do that if we are going to remain a viable economic entity. Therefore, trade for Ontario—

trade for all of Canada, but particularly for Ontario—is not only something that we can wish for, it is something we absolutely require.

The member did refer to the fact that Ontario has begun to move into the high-technology era and has begun to assist industry in Ontario by the setting up of the technology centres, and I compliment the government on that. I compliment the Minister of Industry and Trade (Mr. F. S. Miller) on his support for those centres. As the member may know, as the critic for the Ministry of Industry and Trade I have visited those various technology centres and I have been rather impressed by what I saw.

However, one of the points we have to keep in mind—and I am looking at the member's resolution—is that we are facing a potential dilemma. As we need to upgrade our technology so we can be competitive on the world stage and international markets, we are facing the possibility of not increasing job opportunities but, in fact, of decreasing job opportunities.

As a matter of fact, I would draw to the member's attention that just two months ago, on TVOntario, a program entitled *The Future of Work*, moderated by a Mr. McManus, predicted that within the next 15 years, as we move more and more into the new technologies in Ontario, we are going to lose 40 per cent of our jobs; 40 per cent of the people who are now working in industry in Ontario will no longer be working in an industry in Ontario.

It may very well be possible that some other kinds of jobs will be provided for those people. Whether or not we can provide more service jobs, whether or not we can provide different kinds of industrial jobs, only the future will tell, but we have to be very clear in understanding that just because we move into the new technologies—and move into them we must; about that there can be little argument—this does not necessarily mean we are going to create new jobs. It is something we are going to have to look at in tandem.

One of the points I would like to draw to the member's attention is the need for us here in Canada to work much more co-operatively than we do at the present time. I wonder, for example, if the minister is aware of the fact that in the city of London, England, there are six Canadian trade offices; not one, two or three, but six. Six different Canadian jurisdictions have seen fit to set up those trade offices. That happens to be the highest number, but there are a number of other American cities, a number of European jurisdictions and even places in the Pacific, in Japan and



in Hong Kong, where we have this continuing duplication of services.

I wonder if we have any concept of what that does to the mentality of those people when they look upon Canada as a trading nation. When we look at the success of other countries—Japan in particular; surely the classic example—you do not have that kind of duplication, you do not have that kind of tripping over each other's feet. Why do we have it? Why is it necessary for the federal government and the various provincial governments all to feel they must be represented independently in these jurisdictions? When are we going to get together and do it co-operatively?

I am not sure. I do not have any magic answers as to the particular process that needs to be set up. What I do know is that we are all wasting millions of dollars. What I also know is that we are probably, from a business point of view, the laughing-stock of those other jurisdictions, "There are those silly Canadians tripping over here, tripping over one another instead of getting together, putting their act together and working together."

I also have to ask whether or not what we are doing at the present time is truly effective. I would draw to the member's attention that in the last 12-month period Ontario spent \$2 million on trade missions and trade exhibitions, and for that expenditure 420 firms generated \$25-million worth of business. That sounds pretty good except when you look at the previous 12-month period. Ontario spent only \$1.2 million—almost 50 per cent less—and during that time 620 firms—200 more—generated \$38 million of sales.

That is a strange tradeoff. In the previous 12-month period we spent less, we involved more firms and we did more business; in the most recent 12-month period we spent more and got less for it. There may be lots of reasons for that, but surely the question that has to arise is what are we doing to analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of what we are doing. Does anyone pull all of this together? I agree with some of the things the member has suggested need to be done, but what we really have to do is to look at the effectiveness of what we are already doing. It does not appear to be nearly as effective as it could be, especially when our economic future and the welfare of our people are so dependent upon trade.

**Mr. Breagh:** Mr. Speaker, I have seen a number of resolutions like this come through Thursday afternoon debates here, and by and large I think most members have taken a look at them and said: "That is a good idea. It does not

solve all of the problems, but it does address itself to a portion of things." So we have by and large tended to support this kind of resolution.

When I first saw this one, it struck me that this is part of what we should be doing. In it are some of the current trends in marketing strategies, developing new technologies, getting them on stream and then promoting them; and that is a worthwhile thing to do.

After a little reflection, I came to the conclusion that I am not going to support this resolution. At some point we must sit down collectively and say, "There is enough trendiness out there that we have to address ourselves to the larger problem."

**3:50 p.m.**

Members may recall that last year one of the resolutions had to do with high tech. In last year's economic parlance the flashy thing was to talk about Canada's development in high technology, how we have a bit of a leg up in certain fields and how we have problems in other fields. There was kind of a long economic discussion in here and in the real world outside as well as in the academic world about how we ought to go after the high-technology end of the market. The difficulty is that it is no longer trendy.

One of the latest things to come about is to talk about this export promotion stuff. The Ministry of Industry and Trade has a little program called the export success program, which is a relatively minor portion of things we need to do.

I have arrived at the stage where I am not going to be supportive of someone bringing us this year's trendy issue, putting it in front of the assembly and saying, "Let us go do this for a while." It is true, and I do not deny for a moment, that when we develop new product lines, new technology or a new way of doing things, we have to go out and compete in a world market. But that is at the end of the process; that assumes the rest of the process will look after itself. I know better than that; it is not going to happen.

I listened to the introductory remarks of the member who sponsored the resolution and they rather confirmed my suspicions that in supporting this kind of resolution one does not even address the major problem; one looks at one technique at the end of a process and pins all of one's hopes that the current little trend is going to resolve the problem. I do not believe for a moment it will, and that is why I am going to have to speak against it and vote against it.

I believe it is an old-fashioned notion to say any one sector of our economy is going to lead us out of this. I do not believe that will happen in the



private sector. In my investigation of what the private sector is up to these days and what it has been up to in the past, I have never come across anyone in the private sector who says it is the responsibility of the private sector alone to provide full employment for a nation or for a province.

In my contacts with those people, they have always been rather straightforward. They have said: "We are in business to make a profit. That is why we are here. Along the way we will provide jobs for people. Along the way we will stimulate other parts of the economy. Along the way we will help the economy of the province or of Canada." But they have never said it was their responsibility to provide full employment.

There are many people around these days who would argue that we are in the middle of some kind of investment-led recovery. I believe that is quite wrong. In the reality where I live, it certainly is wrong. The recovery is happening in certain portions of our economy but it is not happening at all in other portions.

In Oshawa, for example, one could make a pretty good argument that General Motors is going good again: there are extra shifts being put on, guys are working overtime and all of that. If one is myopic enough to look at that one small sector of our local economy, one will get a wrong concept fixed in one's mind, because in the rest of the economy things are not at all rosy. The smaller plants remain closed and the trend is that they are continuing to close in Hamilton, in Collingwood and all over the place.

We are beginning to understand that we are in the middle of a world economy here. Our workers are competing on a world basis against nations that not only offer great incentives to industrialists these days but also have average daily wage rates of something like \$8 to \$10 per day, or \$1.50 per hour. Our workers are not going to compete against those for very long, nor are our industries.

The other day I heard someone from Canadian General Electric say the ideal production facility should be built on a boat that simply would be towed along to the country with the lowest wage rate in the world, parked there while that remained the lowest wage rate and then moved to some other place where workers were exploited more.

There has been much yatter about Japan and how wonderful it is, but one should look at the trends in the current Japanese industrial structure. The radio, the television set or the VCR one buys is very likely thought to be a Japanese-made

product, but when one investigates how it is put together, one is amazed to find out that it is not; many of the parts come from countries adjacent to Japan in the Pacific Rim. They are producing parts outside of Japan for production in Japan.

The other day I saw a study that suggested Japanese automobile makers, always thought to have an advantage in the world market, are contemplating almost totally moving their production facilities out of Japan into places where they can exploit lower wage rates.

That trend is there even in Japan and it is certainly the case here. We are losing the Allen Industries plant in Hamilton. That firm is going to Mexico for a lower wage rate.

We have to take a good look at what other nations are doing. In other jurisdictions, one of the things a company has to look at is that it cannot just shut down a plant and leave. It has obligations to the workers who have invested their lives in that plant and it has to make sure those obligations are fulfilled. There is an obligation to the government there. In other jurisdictions, a firm cannot just pack up and blow away. Very often we see Canadian plants shut down simply because it is so easy to do that in Canada. We have to address ourselves to that.

We have to talk about content legislation in everything from computers to automobiles because other investment nations such as Brazil and Mexico are saying that anyone wanting to sell in their market has to produce their goods there. That is an important point that has to be made. If we do not save the jobs we now have, we cannot realistically talk about an expansion of our economic growth elsewhere.

It would be nice to run around and say the simple solution is to sell new products in the world market, but we will not be able to do that for very long. It will not do very much for our economy if we lose our existing manufacturing base, which is exactly what is happening.

The final point I want to touch on, because it is a matter of some concern to me, is the idea that anybody in the private sector or the public sector, any little bright idea even, is going to resolve our economic problems. That is hogwash and we should have learned that by now. We should have learned that lesson a long time ago. The solution to our economic problems relies on a collective will to take a positive approach to the future, to take a look at our existing practices within the industrial sector and within the public sector and to come to a consensus. That is not easy to do, in particular in the private sector where there is a lot of heavy competition back and forth.



The truth is that other nations have done just that. Governments must play a role in that and so must the private sector. Without that collective will to change the way we do things, without that collective will to use the new technology, that new technology will wind up being a curse to our society because the choice is plain: we use the new technology to change the means of production, to improve the lives of ordinary workers and to make products and marketing techniques better, or we wind up with something that is literally a curse on the whole industrial sector. It is of no great advantage to either the worker or the industry.

I believe now is the time we must stop fiddling around with notions from another century. We must develop here in Canada, by an act of collective will, some new ways of doing things. This resolution this afternoon addresses itself to one portion of that, one rather small portion after the fact, so to speak. I believe it is time to stop touting these things as being solutions. It is time to be more comprehensive in our analysis of what we are doing right and what we are doing wrong.

It is time to recognize finally that this solution will come about only by an act of collective will. That involves the workers, the private sector and governments creating a consensus and moving to implement the results of that consensus on the worldwide market which now exists so that this province and this country can have what they so desperately need. That is some economic revival.

**Mr. Barlow:** Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I am certainly going to support this resolution. I am surprised to hear the member for Oshawa (Mr. Breagh) suggest he may not be supporting it. After he hears all of the arguments, perhaps he will swing over to the side of the member for York Centre and support the resolution.

There is no question that increased export trade for this province is necessary if we are to prosper through this century and on into the 21st century. Moreover, this government has a vital role to play in ensuring that Ontario receives and indeed increases its share of the massive export market. Through further attempting to co-ordinate our export programs and policies into one cohesive export strategy, this government will be doing its utmost to see this happen.

4 p.m.

As my colleague the member for York Centre has already stated, development of export trade is already a priority for this government, as it is for all provincial governments. Through its policies and programs, it fosters Ontario's growth in the

international marketplace. As this resolution proposes, even further attempts should and must be made to develop Ontario's exports.

The importance of doing so cannot be underestimated. At present, it is the export industries that appear to be providing the current forward momentum for Canada's economy. It is these firms that are creating the new jobs and raising our output. Exports of manufactured goods increased by 16.5 per cent last year to \$33.4 billion. In Ontario, export-related activity resulted in the employment of 800,000 people; that is nearly 20 per cent of Ontario's total employed labour force.

The value of Ontario's exports per capita surpasses that of the rest of this country and of the three major industrial powers of West Germany, the United States and, as has been recognized, Japan. On a per capita basis, Ontario's total exports were valued at US\$3,432 in 1982; that is nearly three times the per capita trading value of Japan.

While these figures sound impressive, we must recognize that Ontario's share of the international market declined throughout the 1970s. Ontario's share of world trade has dropped from 2.3 per cent in 1970 to 1.6 per cent in 1982. This decline in share of world trade has meant a loss for Ontario of \$16 billion in exports and 300,000 jobs. That is enough of the statistics.

The mover of this resolution has already spoken about how Ontario must work towards making adjustments in our economic structures. Initiatives in this area are necessary if this province is to meet the major challenge proposed by the changing world market and the international marketplace. I concur that this government should attempt further co-ordination of these activities. Free trade has its place in this industrial economy; there is no question about that.

Today I want to speak about the enterprises that will facilitate and ultimately reap the benefits of economic adjustments and increased export trade, the small businesses and industries found throughout Ontario. I will address how further co-ordination of government policy will assist and encourage these small- and medium-sized firms to export. I will discuss the importance of a cohesive export strategy for the average man on the street.

The potential for small Ontario firms in the export market is vast. In 1982 only 22 per cent of Ontario's manufacturers exported their products. That means that out of 14,500 manufacturing



firms, roughly 11,300 limited themselves strictly to the domestic market. For Ontario to prosper, it is increasingly evident that our companies must identify the international opportunities that exist and begin to move into those markets. It is also necessary that the Ontario government further endeavour to provide the infrastructure and support necessary to achieve this.

In my riding there are some firms responding to this challenge with the help of the Ontario government through the Ministry of Industry and Trade. For example, one manufacturer recognized a growing market in the filtration equipment field. He developed a fuel filtration system with many safety features that are now required by the major airlines. These devices are now required by law throughout Canada.

This company, 3-L Filters Ltd., recognized the market was out there and went after it. The firm has been on many trade missions with the province. It has sold its products worldwide, and about 80 per cent of its products are exported. The government was with the firm on a recent trade mission to South America, discussing the problem of water filtration down there. They developed a water filtration system that is now on the world market.

This is just one industry that has recognized and realized through foresight that it must get involved in the export field. It has benefited not only the company, the riding of Cambridge and the city of Cambridge but also the entire country. Their product is characterized by high value added, high specialization and low volume demand. This is a really competitive area that had to be entered. This company has demonstrated that government initiatives and programs can assist in identification of countless innovative possibilities that exist in markets throughout the world.

The thrust of this resolution is to encourage the government to further attempt the co-ordination of such export policies so more companies can move into the export market. But we must not stop with assisting companies to find and identify the new world markets where Ontario firms can meet a demand.

As the member for York Centre has suggested, our export strategy must further co-ordinate in a fashion that encourages the creation of high-technology, innovative products that can effectively fill many of the voids in the world markets. As he stated, Ontario has the education, expertise and human resources to make major inroads in this sphere. The government must realize that the

development of these products is not limited to the major laboratories across Canada.

A second firm I would like to recognize in this field in Cambridge is Com Dev Ltd. Com Dev manufactures microwave devices and subsystems for communications satellites and earth terminals. The company is the world's largest single supplier of microwave multiplexing systems for communications satellites. In fact, more than 40 satellites scheduled for launch between now and 1986 will carry components designed and manufactured by Com Dev Ltd.

It is obvious their technical expertise is matched by very few others. This advanced capability has opened doors for the company worldwide. Fully 94 per cent of their revenues for the last fiscal year were contributed by way of export sales. Their market has been growing. That is what is meant by this company selling on the export and worldwide markets.

Small companies do not know how to get out and sell in the world market. This is why the government has to co-ordinate and assist them in the promotion of their products on a worldwide basis. The government must attempt to make exporting to the other side of the world as easy as shipping across town. The village boundaries that were the parameters of trade 100 years ago have evolved into the global boundaries of today. This government must continue to ensure that Ontario businesses are prepared to compete within this sphere.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to add a few words to the resolution we see before us this afternoon.

It is particularly interesting to see a member of the government party introduce a resolution that indicates the government of this province should recognize the importance of a particular sector. We can only conclude from reading the resolution that the government has obviously ignored it in the past if it must now start recognizing what it was not doing before.

There is a sentence here that says in part it "should therefore further attempt to co-ordinate." We can only assume from reading that phrase that the present policies are uncoordinated. I wholeheartedly agree with the lack of co-ordination we see on the part of this government vis-a-vis consolidating existing programs of any kind, let alone the export programs of the government of Ontario.

**4:10 p.m.**

We know it is very difficult for entrepreneurs attempting to start up a business in Ontario to obtain the necessary funding to start any kind of



venture, in the export area or elsewhere. For instance, in the part of eastern Ontario where I am from—and the member for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (Mr. Villeneuve), whom I see over there—we know the eastern Ontario development agreement, through which we used to channel several projects to obtain some funding, has now run out of money. It was a federal-provincial five-year agreement, and although the fifth year is not quite over, there is no money left in it.

For its part, the federal government has established a program in at least parts of my constituency. I cannot think of the name of that program right now; they have changed it two or three times. In any case, it is a program to assist people starting new manufacturing plants in our area. I think part of the riding of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry is included in that program as well. We see no similar efforts on the part of this government to try to stimulate business and new entrepreneurship in our area.

It is very disheartening to see that while we have one million jobs in this province that depend on export-related activities, we are suffering from a problem whereby in the last decade our share of world trade has actually decreased. When we talk of exporting here we are talking of products of all kinds. We are not just talking about electronics, although that is a very important sector. We are talking about agriculture and a variety of products which, as members know, we have exported in the past.

Again, looking at Ontario's agricultural industry, which traditionally was at least a component of our exports—and we have to look at this in the context not only of exporting but of import replacement as well—we are losing that battle in the agricultural area. Certainly many of the products we at one time used to grow in Ontario we are now importing from the southern jurisdictions. We see those products coming into our province.

At the same time we see that our subsidies in the agricultural area are totally deficient, as we all know and as I am sure we all agree, in comparison to those of other jurisdictions. The net effect is that where we were competitive in the export of those products in the past we are no longer, and we find ourselves importing the same products we were exporting only a few years ago.

To get back to the area of manufacturing as it pertains to the exporting sector, it is interesting to note that had we properly retrained our labour force in the manufacturing sector for the new technology that we see coming, we would have

found ourselves today with an unemployment rate of half of what it is now.

This is probably what the member for York Centre is referring to. We need a more co-ordinated approach which will result in higher employment, less unemployment and better opportunities for export trade of all kinds. When I refer to export trade, I naturally also think of import replacement, because one is as important as the other.

If we had maintained our share of world trade, we would have had another 200,000 to 300,000 people of this province working. Again, I agree with the member for York Centre who says that we need to be co-ordinated, because if we have lost 200,000 to 300,000 jobs in this province, we really are an unco-ordinated bunch.

For instance, let us just think that had we kept our share of the world market, and were we to have assigned those jobs among our young people—we have 183,000 young people unemployed; those are the March 1984 statistics—we could have employed all of our youth, had we done that right, and we would still be short some people. We would have had to get them from among the more senior of our workers who are unemployed, or we could have done it vice versa. This will indicate to members just how badly we have mismanaged this area in the past if we have become this deficient, where we lost such a great part of the market we had.

We know the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Ontario is 9.4 per cent right now. That is 434,000 people. The member for High Park-Swansea (Mr. Shymko), who is listening at the present time, will know that had we a better export development strategy, 300,000 of those 434,000 people would be employed. This means there would be hardly any unemployment at all had the government listened to the kind of advice the member for York Centre is giving to us right now.

It is high time the government listened to some of this advice. It has not listened to it in the past when we have told it, and I have difficulty in imagining why it would listen to those members more than it has listened to us. The member knows as well as I do that the government does not listen to the back-benchers at all; it listens to them even less than it listens to us. It listens to us a little bit more because we tend to make more noise.

In the throne speech, the government talked about the export area. It said: "World trade almost doubled in the 1970s and is expanding once more. If Ontario is to prosper and maximize



its potential, we must share fully in this adventure." Even looking at the throne speech, there is an admission there that if we are going to start doing things right—which means we are not doing them right now—we are going to have to start to wake up in this province and get into the export development area, which we have so badly neglected in the past.

Again, we read in the same throne speech document that the export success fund and all those other programs we have are going to be reinforced. There is another word governments use when they say they are going to put more money into something—enrich; they are going to enrich a program. It is interesting to see that when they are talking about poverty cases and they are going to give them another \$2 or something, they call that enriched. If I ever heard of an exaggeration of how the dictionary is used, that is certainly one case right there. So we are going to enrich in this particular area of concern.

We have such a variety of agencies from this government doing various things in this area right now that it is totally unco-ordinated. We are talking of the export success fund, the Ontario International Corp., the Ontario Educational Services Corp. and, last and certainly least, the Board of Industrial Leadership and Development, where we have put some BILD money into certain projects that otherwise probably would have been done anyway, but we have called them BILD to rationalize the propaganda of the last provincial election.

I am glad the member for York Centre has brought this resolution to our attention today. It helps to reinforce what we on this side of the House have been saying, that this government has not been doing its job in the past.

**4:20 p.m.**

**Mr. Swart:** Mr. Speaker, I rise with something of the same attitude of my colleague the member for Oshawa with regard to this resolution. We did not have any discussion about it before he rose. I feel as he does, that this resolution is one of the sort of motherhood resolutions that one would expect all members to support. The main thrust of this resolution is to increase our exports, but I, like my colleague, am going to vote against it.

I want to say that I recognize the place of exports in our economy. I realize that if we are going to buy from outside we have to sell to outside, but my objection—

**Mr. Boudria:** We buy constitutional medals from outside.

**Mr. Swart:** And even lottery tickets.

My objection is related to priorities. This is put forward by the member for York Centre as the main answer to our massive economic problems. It is a Tory priority, especially his. I heard him say the other day he wants to fly with the eagles; he does not want to sit with the turkeys. I want to say to him he will be roosting with that back-bench flock for a long time, assuming he can get re-elected, if he comes out with statements like that. I mention that statement because it really was a right-wing statement. He raised that issue to show his government was too far to the left. He wanted to be with the true private enterprisers.

This resolution does not deal with the fundamental faults of our economic system, nor do other things the member and his government do. I am sure the member must know we had a favourable trade balance last year of something like \$2 billion. We had a favourable trade balance the year before of something like \$3 billion. We traditionally have a trade imbalance in this nation when times are prosperous. I realize all countries cannot have an excess of exports over imports. That is a real impossibility. If we can get the balance, that is the best goal we can achieve.

In depressions we have good trade balances. It has always been shown to be that way. In good times we have trade imbalances. I would not be a bit surprised if the member for York Centre might like to promote the depression so we would have a good trade balance. That would be the standard right-wing philosophy. The proposal here to increase exports, to have a good export trade, is part of the package, but it is not the real cause and, therefore, cannot be the solution to our present economic problems.

A much more important factor is to make this country self-sufficient. We have something like \$4 billion worth of food imports, \$2 billion worth of which we can produce ourselves. The government does nothing about this. This year in my area we are importing far more wines than we were previously. In fact, Canada is the third largest importing country for wines which we can produce ourselves. The government does nothing about achieving self-sufficiency in a natural resource industry.

In normal and prosperous times we have something like a \$15-billion industrial production deficit. The federal Liberals and this provincial government do nothing about that. The Liberals and the Tories will not touch those things because they would have to interfere in the



private sector. This government does not believe in that. That is hands off. But the government has to do that if it is going to show self-sufficiency. At present the multinational corporations are making the decisions, not the governments at all. They do not have a handle on the economy. The multinational corporations are making the decisions, based on what is good for them and not on what is good for Canada.

This brings me to the final and all-important point. What we must do in our economy is to change the system so that decisions are made on the basis of what is good for employment, what is good for production, what is good for fair sharing and what is good for internal consumption, not just on what is good for profit. What we have to do is plan to meet our own domestic needs. There are people in this nation who would love to have billions of dollars worth of things they need. They are not just wants; they are needs. But we do not plan to meet those kinds of things.

Pierre Berton, speaking at McMaster University in Hamilton last fall, made this comment, which I used the other day: "I hope you will remember," Berton told the more than 560 graduating students, "if we are going to prosper, we are going to have to change the system." He went on to say, "If you do not change the system, the system will change you."

That is what has to be done. We have fallen behind much of the rest of the world because we have not changed the system to a democratic socialist way of doing things as have the other Western democracies that have passed us. Sweden, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands, West Germany and Switzerland have all moved ahead of us. According to the World Bank, they have a higher average standard of living than we have in this nation or in the United States. After the United States led the world for 40 years, for four decades, in average standard of living with Canada second, we are now down to 10th, 11th, 12th and probably 15th by this time.

Those countries do not have any greater exports proportionally or any better balance of trade than we have in this nation; they do not have any greater natural resources. In fact, they do not have anything like the natural resources we have in this nation.

They also do not have less unionization. The member who introduced this motion would like to see wages cut. He may not say so publicly, but we have to produce more cheaply, according to him, and that is one way to do it. Those countries have two or three times the percentage of the work force unionized that we have here; yet they

have managed to pass us. Their average standard of living is better than ours and their numbers of unemployed proportionally are substantially below ours in most of those Western democracies—not in England, of course, where they have gone back to the right wing again and are paying the price for it.

The best example we can use here of what has clobbered our economy has been the high interest rates. There is no question about this; I am sure even the people on the opposite side would agree. My God, if interest rates had never gone above 10 per cent, if interest rates now were down to six per cent, we would have greater prosperity. Why did governments not do something about it? Because they simply do not believe in interfering.

The democratic socialist countries in Western Europe did not raise their rates when they went up in the United States and Canada at first. They do not live on an island; no country does in this age. Ultimately, they did raise their interest rates, but it was the United States that led the increase in interest rates, and the United States and Canada have paid the price. We have more unemployed, and a great many of the other democracies across the world have surpassed us. Instead of intervening to keep the interest rates down, this government intervened to keep the wages down, and that price has been pretty substantial.

The government over there has done a pretty good job of restraint and keeping wages down, but the one that has done the most is that of British Columbia: "One of Five in BC Lives on Welfare, UI." This was in the paper on April 5. That is the route they have gone. It is the same route as this government. They have gone a little bit farther.

We in this party say the government has got to make fundamental changes. At this time, just to pass a resolution saying what we need is more exports misses the real point; therefore, we are voting against it.

**Mr. Pollock:** Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have addressed the merits of, and further attempted to co-ordinate and consolidate, the various export policies throughout the many Ontario ministries.

**Mr. Boudria:** Put that sheet away and say it off the cuff. You can do better than that.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Robinson):** Order.

**Mr. Barlow:** Listen to him. He spent all morning writing it. Be quiet.

**Mr. Pollock:** In their comments they have expanded on such things as the importance of



developing new markets and the larger role small business must play in Ontario's export drive. They have suggested ways, government policies and programs that might foster this development. Attention has been focused on the manufacturing and service sectors.

**4:30 p.m.**

While not taking away from the importance of these sectors, it is important that the province remember its agricultural roots. The contribution agricultural products and natural resources make to Ontario's trade balance is significant. For that reason alone, these sectors cannot be ignored.

Furthermore, there is as much potential for growth in agricultural products and natural resources in the international marketplace as there is for manufactured products. Current government initiatives in the agricultural sector are well on their way to proving this. Already we are enjoying the positive effects of the trade missions and promotional policies of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

In 1983 Ontario undertook 24 agricultural trade missions. The missions took Ontario exporters around the world. Our message was taken as far away as Bahrain in the Middle East and as near as Detroit in Michigan. These initiatives contributed to Ontario agricultural exports. They were valued at \$1.6 billion in 1982. This House will agree that such a contribution is significant to Ontario's overall export trade balance.

The government's trade missions do two things. First, they reinforce the quality and reliability of Ontario's agricultural commodities in already established markets. They prove to markets such as the United States that good things really do grow in Ontario. I urge the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to continue such initiatives. This province's agricultural community cannot be allowed to become too smug about established major markets such as the ones to the south of us.

Second, and more important, is the development of new markets for agricultural products. As with manufactured goods, There are many exciting market possibilities for Ontario producers to find and explore. Many regions of the world are not blessed with the rich agricultural lands Ontario has. Many countries in these regions are wealthy and growing and need to find a reliable source of food. For example, the desert climate of the Middle East is not suitable for many staple crops.

At present Saudi Arabia is said to be subsidizing domestically produced wheat up to \$28 a

bushel. The world price of this staple is only around \$4 a bushel. It is impossible for nations such as Saudi Arabia to continue to make such massive agricultural subsidies. Instead, they will have to increase their trade with other nations. Ontario is in an optimal position to gain such markets.

Our opportunities stop neither at the Middle East nor with agricultural staples. As the member for York Centre has stated, the markets in the developing world are immense. Not only do they require foodstuff to feed their massive populations, but they require the technology and expertise to become independent in their own food production. Ontario can help to provide both. The province produces a broad range of agricultural products able to meet the various needs in diverse markets. Our capacity to fill international market demands in this area does not need to be questioned.

What is more exciting and important to Ontario is the potential for export growth for our agricultural know how and equipment.

**Mr. Speaker:** The member's time has expired.

**Mr. Cousens:** Mr. Speaker, a very special thank you to the member for Cambridge (Mr. Barlow) and the member for Hastings-Peterborough (Mr. Pollock) for the insights they have given into this resolution, the thought processes. Their contributions on the agricultural side and the industrial side have really helped to give more credibility to this important resolution. I thank them for their remarks.

As to the remarks that were prepared and presented by the member for Welland-Thorold (Mr. Swart) and the member for Oshawa, I did make a comment about soaring with the eagles. I would rather do that than flop with the buzzards because birds of a feather do fly together. There is a sense in which both, not even having talked to each other before they made their remarks, had the same negative remarks, lack of insight and lack of understanding of the total picture.

Motherhood is important. The issue we are raising today happens to be a motherhood issue that has a great deal to say about the future success of our province. I am grateful we have a chance in this forum to promote worthwhile things, and that is part of what we are doing here today.

As I consider some of the insights shared by the member for Kitchener-Wilmot (Mr. Sweeney), there is some good basis for agreement. We are not yet a Utopia. I do not know whether we will ever get there, but one thing I see



happening is that more can happen through the efforts of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and through the efforts of our government, hopefully with more co-operation in the direction we both seem to agree on.

I think we want to move to a better state. We want to make sure that whatever can be done will be done and that our government is not being slack, half-hearted or anything else, but is diligent in pursuing the worthwhile goals we know are there if we pursue more of the free-enterprise system and support industry and enterprise not only for trade in this country, but for trade throughout the world.

As I was listening to the member for Prescott-Russell (Mr. Boudria), the key word I heard was co-ordination. It was underlined in the remarks of the member for Kitchener-Wilmot as well as those of the member for Prescott-Russell. We need to co-ordinate more. Our governments have to work together. Not only do the federal government, the provincial governments, and the municipal governments have to work together, they have to work together with industry and have the basis of working together with the people who make it happen, the labour force.

That is not a policy, a platform or a task force. The Minister of Labour (Mr. Ramsay) has as much to give and contribute to this important enterprise as does every minister in this government and every member of this House. I think we still have room to dream and hope and to work towards fulfilling those dreams and hopes. We can do something about it here at Queen's Park.

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Mr. Breithaupt moved second reading of Bill 2, An Act to provide for Freedom of Information and Protection of Individual Privacy.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** Mr. Speaker, two years ago I stood before you in this chamber, urging upon my colleagues acceptance of Bill 98 during debate on second reading. Today Bill 98 is Bill 2, An Act to provide for Freedom of Information and Protection of Individual Privacy. My task today is no less formidable than it was then.

I shall not repeat what I have said on earlier occasions in support of this cause. I shall not tread again upon the disappointment-laden history of access and privacy legislation in Ontario, nor shall I elaborate upon the contents of my bill. I have done so fully in the past. Rather, I shall speak about purposes and implications,

about challenge and opportunity, and about principle, hoping to win discussion about detail before a committee of this House.

The overriding purpose of this bill is to "promote the principles of free democratic government" by guaranteeing "reasonable openness in government and the protection of the public from unwarranted secrecy and unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

The purpose can be achieved, broadly speaking, by conferring upon individuals both the right to be informed of government actions and the right to be protected from government intrusion. These rights should be fundamental in a modern democracy, as natural to self-government as the sunrise is to the horizon. They derive from the respect due to the individual, arising from his or her very humanity and the equality inherent in existence, but it is the aspect of modernity which imposes upon democracy the urgency to give sanctuary to these rights.

4:40 p.m.

Modernity means the use by government of computers, microchip technology, satellites and microwave communications. The involvement of government in all aspects of modern life has no precedent in history. Realistically, this is less regrettable than it is inevitable. Technological advancements, coupled with the expanded governmental role, are making possible, as documented by Professor David Flaherty of the University of Western Ontario, the continued accumulation, use and transfer of massive amounts of personal information on every aspect of life in modern industrial societies.

As we evolve more and more into a high-tech information society, values of humanity and individuality tend to be subordinated to computer-symbolized indifference and anonymity. As I have stated before, we must be on our guard against the erosion of the sanctity of the individual. We must be sensitive to what the late professor Perry Miller of Harvard called "the responsibility of mind in a civilization of machines." Government can best prove this sensitivity by legislating for the individual the right to be informed and the right to protect one's privacy, yet in Ontario these rights do not exist.

At one time they were promised. On October 9, 1980, the minister, with a full measure of justifiable pride, proclaimed:

"The government accepts the basic goals of the commission's recommendations for freedom of information legislation—legislation granting a general right of access to government information except for that specifically exempted and



including an independent review of government denials of access. We will consider carefully all the recommendations of the commission in drafting those laws. That process is now under way and legislation will be introduced here as soon as possible."

Later in his statement he said: "This government is committed to greater openness in its administration and increased access by the citizen. To this end, the Premier (Mr. Davis) last week wrote to all ministers with guidelines for civil servants in communicating with the public. Let me quote briefly from that letter:

"'Between now and the time freedom of information legislation is enacted and the administrative apparatus for its operation is in place, there is a great deal we can do to give the policy of open government meaning and consistency. A step that can be taken in this interim period is to encourage open and responsive behaviour among public servants in their daily dealings with the public, particularly including members of the Legislative Assembly and representatives of the news media.'"

That quotation in a letter sent by the Premier to the members of his cabinet was favoured by the minister. But what has happened to destroy that resolve of 1980?

Two years, six months and 14 days ago, on September 29, 1981, the Minister without Portfolio, newly responsible for these tasks and taking on the responsibility of freedom of information, announced the establishment of a task force. It was the member for Carleton-Grenville (Mr. Sterling) who made that announcement two years, six months and 14 days ago.

**Mr. Nixon:** That long?

**Mr. Breithaupt:** That minister is in the House this afternoon, and he has had the responsibility with respect to freedom of information since that time—

**Mr. Nixon:** Our Norman is no turkey.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** —although, indeed, from another analogy it would appear that this burden of freedom of information hangs around his neck like the albatross around that of the ancient mariner.

We have had a task force. That was another \$100,000 on top of the \$3 million that the Williams commission and the Krever commission cost us.

**Mr. Nixon:** They have lots of money; not much will.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** However, rather than bold and vital reform, we see the spectacle of a paranoid government resisting change, resisting the reviving breeze of an open and responsive democracy which, wafting through a structure hermetically closed for more than 40 years, would air it out, would indeed remove the mildewed odour of complacency and arrogance.

It is time to raise the shutters on the house of government. It is time to let the people peer in so that government can better reach out.

Two years ago the minister professed support for the philosophy of this bill but exception to much of its detail. Two years later the government has not reconfirmed for us the philosophy of the bill, nor have we attempted to quibble with the requirements that the detail should be considered in committee. There has been no governmental proposal whatsoever, out of fear, I presume, having regard to the minister's previous remarks, that "access to information and protection of privacy can be swiftly transformed from a public benefit to a public burden if great care is not taken."

But is the actual burden of closed government not greater than the speculative burden of open government? Is the present price we are paying—namely, that of a cynical, distrusting, disillusioned electorate—not heavier than the hypothetical price, in the words of the minister, of "substantial increases in the administrative costs which would be borne by the taxpayer"?

The changing nature of the world and technology demands that our governmental institutions change at equal pace. The right of the individual to be informed of government activity and to protect his or her own privacy are the cutting edges of such institutional change. Closed government at its best alienates and cuts off the people it is intended to serve, because it presupposes the individual is unworthy of trust or incapable of assimilating information.

Imagine how much sharper the feeling of alienation in the individual is when that closed government operates with a technology which represents everything the human being is not, anonymous, impersonal and unfeeling. What are the long-term implications for the community of an electorate perpetually disillusioned about its institutions, perpetually distrustful of its government and perpetually cynical of those who seek public office?

Surely this kind of voter ignorance must be supplanted by voter enlightenment. The common suspicion must be changed by sound information. Our democracy must be open and inviting.



The public should be able to examine government activities as a matter of right, not by sufferance, not by grace, and not by the favour of a particular administration. In a collision between the interests of the public and the interests of the government, the latter must always give way.

Open, responsive government is also respectful government. By respecting the individual, government will be respected. The increasing role of the state in our lives is a mixed blessing. All government programs have an obvious value and role in contemporary society, but they create privacy-invasive data gathering systems.

An example, given at a recent conference by Dean McCamus of Osgoode Hall, a former director of research for the Williams commission, is illuminating. "Let us assume one has a son or daughter thinking of a political career. This person is in university and very troubled, perhaps about the experience of heading away from home or meeting new people and so on. He or she decides to go to a psychiatrist about this little problem of adjustment. What is your advice? Should they do it or should they not?"

"I think we would all instinctively say: 'Well, of course. We are putting a lot of money into a health care delivery system of which that is an important part. If people have emotional difficulties they should talk to a psychiatrist.' But as soon as they do in Ontario, we create a centralized public record—not public in the sense of being accessible to the public, but created by a public agency—of that visit to the psychiatrist and his or her characterization of the problem for the purpose of our OHIP system.

"The main purpose of keeping that record is to ensure that psychiatrists are not unfairly billing the system, but in order to accomplish that objective what we do is create a record of your child's visit to a psychiatrist. Will the record ever come out in the public domain? The Krever commission is very troubling for us on this point. They revealed that if somebody wants the data they ultimately seem to be able to get it."

That is not a bizarre illustration of the problem. Lest any of us harbour any doubt about the extent of personal information held by the provincial government in both automated and manual form, I refer again to Professor Flaherty.

"Excluding systems covering government personnel, the Ontario index of personal information systems lists approximately 475 personal information systems. Since health information is generally regarded as somewhat sensitive, it is worth noting that 20 per cent of the Ontario

personal information systems are located in the Ministry of Health. Of those information systems for which the storage format is known, approximately 20 per cent are stored, at least in part, on computers. The large capacity and low cost of new information technology will dramatically increase this percentage over the next 10 years."

4:50 p.m.

The public interest requires that we act now before the next 10 years are upon us. This bill, if enacted, would put in place a data protection system that would question the existence of sensitive information systems. It would make sure the individual has access to information about himself or herself to ensure its accuracy, and it would then impose more appropriate retention and destruction criteria.

For the sake of the community and the democratic institutions that govern it, can we afford not to take these steps? The opportunity is now. The challenge is now. To borrow from the novelist, "Shall we hug the shoreline of democratic government or shall we sail in its open sea?"

Over these last several years I have been particularly interested in this topic. I could go through the chronology of activities I recited when this bill was last debated before us. That happened to be on May 27, 1982. Questions have been asked on this subject on behalf of both opposition parties. We look back to those days under minority government in 1977 when this was a topic that was of some particular interest. As a result, we had the establishment of both the Williams commission on freedom of information and the Krever commission on confidentiality of medical health records.

We spent some \$3 million coming to a certain level of opportunity within this province. The bill that is before this House this afternoon is a distillation of what was suggested in those reports. I do not claim particular personal credit for that legislation. I am told by those who have studied the subject that the bill as put together at least represents one of the best opportunities they have seen for further discussion, further opportunity and no doubt a variety of changes.

However, the principles are there and those principles deal with a general public right of access to government-held information and a list of specific exemptions from this general right to protect the legitimate needs of government for confidentiality.

The principle of independent review of government decisions to release or withhold information is also there because through the framework



I am suggesting we would move from a director through a tribunal to the opportunity under the relevant statutes for a decision to be made by the Divisional Court if information was withheld.

There are those on the government side, indeed those on any government side, who would prefer the final decision to be made by cabinet. If such is the case, let us argue about that in committee. Let us decide and discuss, based upon the framework I hope we all believe is a useful adjunct to the way our Legislature deals with the society it is supposed to serve, that is, through having appropriate legislation in place as every other western democracy has learned to deal with it.

Of course, the protection of individual privacy is needed. This legislation would encourage restraint and fairness in the collection of personal data by government. The bill would ensure the public is aware of the existence and nature of government information systems containing personal data. Indeed, the bill would also give individuals the right to examine and correct records containing personal information about them, subject to certain particular exceptions.

Finally, that aspect of the legislation would establish data management standards to protect the integrity and security of personal information held in government records.

There is need for legislation of this type within Ontario. The ministry, with perhaps the best intentions in the world, has not been able to come to grips with this problem and place before the House appropriate legislation that is at least as good as the bill before us today.

We have seen the requirements for freedom of information grow in recent months as questions have remained unanswered on Orders and Notices or as various contracts or public opinion polls or other areas have become of interest to the media and the refusal to provide them has become more and more apparent.

There is a need for the legislation I have suggested before this House. Support for it is widespread across Ontario. In editorial comments in late 1983, not only the newspaper in the community I happen to represent, the Kitchener-Waterloo Record, but also the Ottawa Citizen and the Globe and Mail, all called for these appropriate changes. The Kitchener-Waterloo Record editorial writer, and I do not who it was, wrote as follows:

"The desire for self-preservation may well explain why the government does not want this legislation passed. However, the desire of the people of Ontario to have an open government is

of far more importance than the life of a 40-year-old regime."

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Right. Anything is more important.

**Mr. Breithaupt:** The Ottawa Citizen wrote in an editorial comment last November 21, "It is a sorry record of deceit and retreat, one that should cause members of cabinet to cringe with embarrassment."

Finally, the Globe and Mail commented: "The government has grown used to releasing only what it cares to release and places its convenience and its desire not to be embarrassed ahead of the public's right to know. Bit by bit it is dismantling the very notion of a freedom of information law."

Other editorial comments have been made on this subject. They have all called for proper and appropriate legislation based on the kinds of safeguards and balance suggested in Bill 2.

In conclusion, I wish to remind my colleagues of the very first words in the Williams commission report. They are as follows. "The modern totalitarian state relies on secrecy for the regime, but high surveillance and disclosure for all other groups. The democratic society relies on publicity as a control over government and on privacy as a shield for group and individual life."

We in Ontario cherish the traditions of democratic society. If we are to ensure the preservation and vitality of those traditions, we need reasonable, fair legislation dealing with freedom of information and the protection of privacy. Those among us who believe the welfare of the community comes before the welfare of its government will support this bill.

Those among us who wish to rescue the ideal of public service from the common concept of sordid self-interest will support this bill. Those among us who wish to make modern democracy compatible with modern technology will support this bill. Those among us for whom the privilege of governing is freedom's most sacred trust—not, as we have recently seen, its most trusted political sacrament—will support this bill. In short, those among us who in a profound sense love democracy and the humanity it is intended to serve, will support this bill.

I commend it to the House. I look forward to the opportunity of debating this subject further in the committee stage.

**Mr. Charlton:** Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the principle of Bill 2 and to congratulate the mover for bringing this bill before us.

Like the mover, I will not go into the details of all of the sections in the bill. I am prepared to support it in principle, although there are a few



minor sections which I do not totally agree with. I agree the subject is important enough that the bill is what we have to support or base our decision on here today.

In my comments, I would like to use a few situations I have run into to demonstrate the importance of the principle set out in this bill.

We have had fairly lengthy discussions in this House about the whole area of occupational health and safety and the absolute need for freedom of information in that area. It is still an area which causes a lot of problems for working people across this province.

I can fully understand why the government and the minister have not been able to come to terms with the issue of freedom of information. I can understand that, just based on some of the things this government is involved in at present.

For example, members may recall there was reference in the throne speech to the Ministry of the Environment and the environmental assessment process and the fact that public process—and I emphasize the public process—aspect of the Environmental Assessment Act is being viewed by some in this province as too lengthy, too cumbersome, too technical and too expensive. I repeat that it is a public and fully open process.

#### 5 p.m.

In the throne speech, the government implied it was prepared to look at some new directions in terms of environmental assessment to try to streamline the process, to cut down the time and complexity involved and to reduce the cost of the process. One technique it was looking at was a process of mediation, not as a replacement for the public hearing but as an addition to it. Obviously, the intention was that if you could mediate a settlement, you would never go to a full public hearing. That was the very clear implication and the very clear understanding of everybody who discussed the matter at the time.

That raises a number of very serious concerns for me, because in response to questions in the week following the throne speech, the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Brandt) said basically—I cannot quote him exactly—that mediation in the environmental assessment process is something the government is already experimenting with; and that is correct, the ministry is already experimenting with the mediation process. I would like to describe a couple of examples of its experiments for the members. They are very relevant in this debate about freedom of information, in what is supposed to be, in the case of the Environmental Assessment Act, a public, fully disclosed process.

There is a case in Tiny township, in the riding of Simcoe Centre, in the Midland and Penetanguishene area. We have a landfill site there that is leaking and that has contaminated wells on three properties; wells that have been so seriously contaminated they have had to be closed so that the home owners, the people who live on those properties, are being forced to drink bottled water being provided by the Ministry of the Environment.

This is one example of the experimental mediation the Minister of the Environment was talking about. In this case they are now in a mediation process, trying to negotiate or mediate with the three families whose wells have been contaminated. Unfortunately, they are the only ones involved in this mediation process: the three families concerned, the operator of the landfill site and the ministry.

The three families who are part of this mediation are being asked to sign affidavits swearing to absolute secrecy in terms of what is said and discussed in those mediation sessions. I want the members to understand the full implication of that, because it is a very serious issue. To date, there are only three wells that are definitely contaminated, but a number of other wells and properties in that community are threatened and a number of other wells and properties in the area potentially may be threatened, based on the decisions that are made in this mediation process which is ongoing.

The people whose wells are threatened although not yet contaminated, and the people whose wells potentially could be threatened if the wrong decisions are made in this mediation, have no access to what is being discussed and will have no access to the decisions that are made until after they are already made. In other words, they will have no input into the process whatsoever when things that could be adverse to their property and clean water are being discussed.

This is the present government's concept of freedom of information. That is why this government has not been able to come to terms with and deal with the question of freedom of information legislation in this province, because it still feels compelled to withhold information. I am not sure, and I will not impute motives as to why it feels compelled, but it is certainly very clear that it feels compelled to withhold information in any number of situations.

Just briefly, I would like to throw out one other example. It is an example that not only affects people but potentially affects their very lives as



well. Recently we had a newspaper story in the *Globe and Mail* about a landfill site in Aurora. This was a new one in the public domain and in the public debate around leaking dump sites.

The story in the *Globe and Mail* was about seven wells that had been contaminated by leachate from that dump site. For several months the situation at the Aurora site was kept totally secret. Ministry personnel who went in and did the testing on the seven wells that were contaminated also tested some additional wells that were very close to the contaminated wells, but no information was released publicly until the *Globe and Mail* exposed the story.

There was no opportunity for the other residents in the very close vicinity to consider that the dump site was leaking and that wells were being contaminated to an extent where they were no longer usable. There was no opportunity for residents whose wells might have changed in some fashion over the last year or so to phone the Ministry of the Environment and say, "I would like you to come out and test my well because there have been some substantial changes in my water over the course of the last year and I think mine may be an additional well that is contaminated as a result of the leaking landfill site."

That whole issue was kept very secret and very quiet. The whole approach being taken by this government is unacceptable in this society today. It is unacceptable because, not only in principle should we have freedom of information, but in the kinds of cases that I have described it can also have a direct and very harmful impact on people, their families, their health and perhaps even their lives.

As the members well know, there are a number of substances in the cases we are talking about which potentially could kill.

With that, I would like to repeat that I will support this bill in principle and encourage all other members to do so as well.

**Mr. Cureatz:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak to Bill 2. I compliment again the member for Kitchener (Mr. Breithaupt) for bringing it forward.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Where is the minister responsible for bringing it forward?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Cousens):** Order.

**Mr. Cureatz:** I am sure he is in the back, listening with great anticipation for my remarks.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Why is he not here to tell us why the government has procrastinated for seven years?

**Mr. Cureatz:** Here he comes now.

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Why is he not speaking?

**The Acting Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Cureatz:** Is the member from Florida happy now that the minister is back?

**The Acting Speaker:** The member for Durham East will speak to the bill.

**Mr. Cureatz:** Yes, thank you very much.

What I wanted to say was that I am especially pleased because I have been here about half the length of time the honourable member has. I can think back to the infamous select committee on company law and the long and gruelling episode covering San Francisco, Vancouver, Victoria, Regina and right here in Toronto with all those hearings. He always approached problems with, I felt, a degree of sensibility and always kept partisan politics out of particular issues.

In that regard I want to sidetrack but work in his bill in relation to an item that actually he and I have been working on, along with the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick). That is in regard to—I will bite my tongue—lawyers, and what I see is the amount of information that lawyers are not contributing to members of the Legislative Assembly and the infamous Law Society of Upper Canada. At a future time I am going to concentrate on what I see as a great vacuum in terms of input that lawyers do not have to the members of the assembly.

**5:10 p.m.**

I want to centre in just for a moment on the Law Society of Upper Canada and the input the member for Kitchener, the member for Riverdale and I have been working on. About two years ago we struck the infamous lawyers' committee of the assembly. We invited all the lawyers from the assembly for a nice dinner and, needless to say, they all showed up.

**Hon. Mr. Sterling:** What?

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** They all showed up for a change.

**Mr. Cureatz:** No, they did not all show up. We struck a triumvirate of the lawyers' chairmanship committee, made up of the member for Kitchener, the member for Riverdale and myself on the basis of trying to approach the law society to get across to other lawyers in Ontario the great lack of co-ordination.

The result was that we had some interesting discussions and meetings with members of the law society and the benchers, notably the present treasurer, Laura Legge. The previous treasurer, Mr. Justice Bowlby, was not too interested in



having a dialogue between all members of the assembly and the benchers.

Happily enough, the present treasurer has taken up the call of the three of us, and within the next month all members of the assembly will be invited to Osgoode Hall, right down the road from here, to have some information relayed to us in regard to what the benchers do and what the law society is all about.

**Mr. Laughren:** I will be there with a copy of Communiqué in hand.

**Mr. Cureatz:** Great. In relation to Communiqué—and this is where we are getting around to Bill 2—the member for Kitchener, along with the member for Riverdale and me, tried to stress to the law society that there was a great lack of information between what was happening at Osgoode Hall and the people who pass the laws in relation to how they govern indirectly through all the members.

In my estimation, the law society also has a lot of work to do in distributing information. To whom? To the lawyers who belong to the law society. I have been talking about this, and more recently in the standing committee on procedural affairs there has been a recommendation that we should be taking a look at the law society because if there is a lack of information between the law society and all lawyers in Ontario, we should be taking a look at how benchers are elected.

At present, for all members who do not know what takes place, there are 20 benchers chosen from outside Toronto and 20 benchers chosen from inside Toronto. The 20 benchers from outside Toronto have to campaign across the whole province if they want to be elected as benchers. My evaluation is that a bencher should be elected on a constituency basis.

We should be taking a look at the possibility of forming constituencies, such as the region of Durham, in relation to geography and the number of lawyers in the region. Those benchers could run in that area so that when they get down to Osgoode Hall and they participate in regulating the lawyers across the province, they can go back to that constituency and give out the information in terms of what is taking place.

I can assure members, along with the member for Kitchener and the member for Riverdale, the lawyers of Ontario have a misconception as to what the law society is all about. Speaking of information, it seems to me there should be a degree of education, be it at law schools or at the bar admission course, instructing new lawyers about the purpose of the law society. We continually hear—I hear it in my riding, and I am

sure other lawyers from all parties hear it from other lawyers—the complaint that the law society is not looking after the lawyers. That is not the role of the law society. There is a lack of information.

What do we do about that lack of information? Maybe we should think in terms of looking at government to take some leadership.

**Mr. Kerrio:** When is that going to happen?

**Mr. Cureatz:** It is an understatement to say the government has been looking at it for some time. I give credit to the member for bringing Bill 2 forward to give some impetus to the government to finish formulating its ideas.

In developing this legislation, I am sure the member has come to recognize the difficulties in striking the correct balance between the imperatives of an open and effective government and those of privacy and protection. Indeed, some of the deficiencies of the bill illustrate just how difficult the task of attaining the correct balance is.

In that connection, I bring to the attention of all members two points in the preamble of the bill. The first point begins, “and whereas it is recognized that reasonable openness in government and the protection of the public from unwarranted secrecy”—we are saying here on the one hand that the general public should have access, but on the other hand—“and unwarranted invasion of personal privacy promote the principles of free, democratic government.”

I am not sure whether the member for Kitchener is saying we do not want to make it too easy for people to get into other people’s personal files in regard to whatever ministry they are involved with. I have trouble in matching those two ideas. I am sure he could say that is only in regard to the preamble.

In relation to the specifics of the bill, however, clause 1(a)(i) states that people should have the ability to seek information, yet on the other hand we want to protect them from anybody else seeking information about them.

I bring to the member’s attention some difficulties I have with a number of positions that are going to be opened up. I am looking at section 2, the interpretation section—“data bank,” “data protection authority,” “director of fair information practices” and “fair information practices tribunal.”

Instead of taking such a large bite with this bill of all the government agencies—I notice under clause 2(g) that “institution” covers all the agencies, “50 per cent of the shares of which are owned by the crown in right of Ontario”—why do



we not take a specific look at maybe one or two ministries or "institutions" as he states in clause 2(g)?

Let us try to take a small bill, a trial bill, to try to develop a format within one or two ministries to see how it would work. Let us adjust it, fine tune it and then possibly from there we could expand, not to all the government agencies, but slowly from one ministry to the next.

I looked at all the interpretations in section 2, and quite frankly I think we would wind up with a large, unwieldy bureaucracy if we were to attempt to take over and look at all the aspects the member is concerned about in terms of people having access to all the ministries.

I know if we just take a look at the office of the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) or at the office of the Solicitor General (Mr. G. W. Taylor), not all the people across Ontario that the member is concerned about would be involved. However, it would be a first step in trying to get a handle on the problem. I cannot speak for the executive council, but in my estimation, one fear it may have is that the government is very large and complex and it would be difficult to try to set up an agency to monitor the whole thing immediately.

I certainly would be in favour of the member bringing forward the bill again and convincing some of my colleagues on this side of the House to take a first step by formulating a small information bill looking at one or two ministries to begin with.

**5:20 p.m.**

**Mr. T. P. Reid:** Mr. Speaker, I am willing to take my place in favour of the former Provincial Secretary for Justice, and still, I understand. Does the honourable member have anything to do with freedom of information any more? Does he?

I find it incredible that the member would be here having toiled long and hard to bring such a bill forward, labouring like an elephant and not even producing a mouse after all these years of attempting to bring forward to this House, through cabinet, a freedom of information bill.

The irony of the fact that we are here once again debating the freedom of information bill of my colleague the member for Kitchener is that at the same time this most secretive of governments will not produce such a bill itself, it has on the public payroll, using taxpayers' money—I must use 1982 figures—the province in 1982 listed 324 of its employees as communicators. Presumably, those are people who are to provide the public with information about what the government is

doing. Of course, we on this side of the House know that information is not forthcoming. I will get into some specific examples in a moment.

It might be interesting for the members to know that when the present Premier became Premier in 1971 something like only 200 people were fulfilling this function when he took over. These people are paid up to something like \$53,000 a year for performing this function of being communicators but not providing any information. If members want to see the consummate irony, I would refer them to a story of May 22, 1982, by Eric Dowd of the press gallery. I just want to quote briefly from it.

"One of the duties of the communications staff is to inform the media. Some can tell you quickly what their ministries' programs are, why they are developed and what their ministers' feelings are but many are so poorly informed, and so lacking in enthusiasm for finding out, that reporters have given up and rarely call them. Instead, they seek information from staff with production-line jobs...Sometimes whole ministry communications staff vanish at a time when the people they are supposed to serve are still working."

He goes on to give an example in the Ministry of Health.

A further irony is that not only do we have overbloated ministries—I think the largest provincial cabinet is in Ontario with many more members than that of any other province—they also contract out or hire speechwriters for that consummate pap they deliver, both in this assembly and around the province, as they go drumming up support for their leadership ambitions.

In the last session I had a question in Orders and Notices about this very matter. I could not get an answer to it.

This party has indicated by way of letters to individual ministries the questions we intend to ask during the estimates concerning their public relations staff, their contract speechwriters, their public opinion polls and a plethora of questions to which these ministers in this government have refused to provide answers as public information.

As a believer in democracy and in the parliamentary system, I say one of our major responsibilities around here is to protect the public purse. But how can we as an opposition and how can the public even know whether their tax dollars are being well and truly spent if we cannot get information from the government as to what they are being spent on?



I will not bother members with the business of trying to get information in regard to advertising because we still do not have that. Being the fair-minded person I am, even I have come to the conclusion that there have to be only two reasons for the reluctance by the government to provide this information: (a) they do not know what they are doing, which is an argument that commends itself to me, watching some of them in action, or (b) they have something they do not want the opposition and the people who pay the bills to know about. They do not want to let people know what is going on for fear of the public condemnation that is sure to follow.

I am a great believer in the simple phrase "public business should be public." It is almost eight years since a freedom of information act was first raised in this assembly and we are still here today debating the excellent bill provided, as the member from Kitchener said, not from some airy-fairy cloud where some of the ministers' speeches come from, but by the very documents and royal commissions this government set up to look into these matters.

I want to talk about an ongoing problem as well and give one specific example. This government for some years, and I presume that again it goes back to when the present Premier became Premier, has been taking public opinion polls in this province at taxpayers' expense and has refused repeatedly to table those same public opinion polls in this Legislature, so that not only the opposition but the public that is paying for them (a) might know what the government is doing with them and (b) have access to the same information.

Repeatedly, since 1978, they refused and then only under threat of a Speaker's warrant did the Premier cough up the polls. Because the member for Carleton (Mr. Mitchell) is here, I think I should refer to an editorial from the Ottawa Citizen on March 17, 1984. I will not quote the whole thing, but I will be sure to send the member a copy.

"The larger question—should governments be spending money for such purposes at all?—is harder to answer. Polls are an important tool of contemporary politics; on balance, it is probably better that our governments know what we are thinking before they act rather than simply plunging in blindly.

"If public funding makes that easier, it may be defensible. On the other hand, if parties and governments become slaves to polls, they may adopt fashionable policies that produce disastrous results over the long term. A sense of

balance is clearly needed—and is too often lacking.

"Public disclosure may be the best available tool to guard against the misuse of polls. After the Legislature reconvenes next week"—here is the really good part—"Liberal MPP Pat Reid will introduce a private member's resolution that would force disclosure of the cost and results of every poll one month after it is given to the government."

That has been tabled, along with my perennial questions of each year which ask the government to table the polls in this Legislature.

Why would that simple request of a member of the opposition for information that is taken with public funds not be made available? I guess the simple answer is that some of the questions asked are fairly sensitive. Second, knowledge is power. I suppose if the cabinet and the government feel they can keep this information unto themselves, they will have more power than we do. In fact, that is true. It is one of the weapons that has kept them in power for these many years.

I would add briefly that I have tabled a private member's bill, An Act to amend the Employment Standards Act, in this Legislature. That would fit in very well with the bill proposed by the member for Kitchener. I commend both to the members of the assembly.

**Mr. Laughren:** Mr. Speaker, before I start, I know you would want me to welcome in our midst in the gallery this afternoon the very distinguished member for Armourdale (Mr. McCaffrey).

I do want to congratulate the member for Kitchener. Not only was it an appropriate bill, but I thought he delivered a very fine speech in introducing the bill this afternoon.

As well, I think we should pay tribute to a number of people from the opposition who have spent a lot of time and put a lot of effort and care into and played a very positive role in drafting legislation over the years to help the government come up with freedom of information legislation that is appropriate. I am thinking in particular of Pat Lawlor, the former member for Lakeshore, our former leader Donald MacDonald and the present member for Riverdale, who have done a lot of work over the years on freedom of information.

**5:30 p.m.**

I must say there is probably not very much that has jaundiced me so much as the government's response on the freedom of information issue. The opposition was dealing in good faith with the government and thought it would be received in



the same way. I am not sure they intended to deceive at the beginning, but that has been the end result. I suspect at the beginning there was an intention to have some meaningful freedom of information legislation in this province, but that has obviously disappeared.

If the government intends not to proceed, then its members should have the courage to say so and stop playing this interminable game not only with the opposition, but also with the public in Ontario. If they are not serious about it, they should have the courage to say it so that everyone will know where he or she stands.

The part of it that has intrigued me so much goes back to 1980. The member for Kitchener referred to it as well. The Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Pope), who was Minister without Portfolio responsible for freedom of information, stated they were going to receive the report and deal with it with dispatch. He included in his speech to the Legislature that letter to the civil service, which the member for Kitchener referred to as well, in which he indicated they were going to require more openness on the part of the civil service.

I will not read all of it. The Premier said it was "to encourage open and responsive behaviour among public servants in their daily dealings with the public, particularly including members of the Legislative Assembly and representatives of the news media." That was the member for Cochrane South (Mr. Pope) quoting from a memorandum from the Premier to the civil servants of the province. Those were very fine words.

If the Premier is in charge, what I do not understand is how the ministers can ignore that directive and how a minister's civil servants within any given ministry can completely ignore the Premier's directive. If I were the Premier, I would have great difficulty accepting the fact that those very direct words can be so blatantly ignored by the very people to whom he directed them.

One needs no better example of that than what happened a couple of years ago within the Ministry of Natural Resources. After the member for Cochrane South had moved from being the minister responsible for freedom of information to being the Minister of Natural Resources, he fired a civil servant, a forester, for communicating with an opposition member of the Legislature, namely, the member for Lake Nipigon (Mr. Stokes). That is all the Premier's words meant to the very minister who a couple of years previously was so proudly quoting those very

words of the Premier. How does that all fit together? The contradictions are enormous.

We in the opposition are frequently running head on into the lack of openness on the part of the government. I understand there are problems. I understand they have to be careful in walking that line between privacy and access to information, but in the areas we are talking about there was no question about privacy being a threat. The area in which the civil servant, the forester, was fired had absolutely nothing to do with privacy.

When I write to the Ministry of Natural Resources and ask for information on regeneration of our forests, it has absolutely nothing to do with privacy. I am simply asking for public information about the public forests of this province, and I am denied the information time and time again. That is why we in the opposition are saying the government is not dealing straight with us. It is time for them to say either they are going to proceed with the legislation or they are not. They cannot for ever play this deceitful game. That is what it has become. It is not fair to the opposition nor to the public at large.

What bothers me so much is that it is not as though the rhetoric had stopped. The ministers there are still talking about openness. The deputy minister is making speeches across the province about how we are going to have a more open government with open dialogue and better communication. That is still going on in the province. They are widely quoted as having made these statements in Ontario, so people across the province collectively nod their heads and say, "We have more open government."

Talk about deceit. The very next day or the very next week the same people who are making those promises are denying information to the opposition. I assume if they are denying the information to us, they are also denying it to the media. Surely if the government is going to make information available to the opposition and the media, it has to be consistent about it. It cannot go on the way it has been going.

Officials within a given ministry will do a comprehensive, thorough report, obviously paid for by tax dollars. It goes to the minister and stays there. I could name reports that have been sitting on ministers' desks for two years and the minister will not release them. They were done at public expense and are in the public domain. They have nothing to do with privacy at all; yet the minister will not release them. Is that fair?

It is time someone over there took the matter in hand and said, "We have played this game long enough."



**Mr. Stokes:** They do not have the wetlands report any more.

**Mr. Laughren:** The Provincial Secretary for Resources Development, the member for Carleton-Grenville, did get the wetlands report released. I believe it was his leaning on the Minister of Natural Resources that got it released. The Minister of Natural Resources would not have released it. Let the record show the minister does not disagree.

I will not go into all the examples. Perhaps as a critic for the Ministry of Natural Resources, I deal with a particularly difficult minister. I do not know. I do not know whether other members of the opposition have the same problems I have had in getting information from that minister, information that should be open and accessible to the opposition. Perhaps other members have as much difficulty; anyway, that is my experience.

This government has lost the ability to distinguish between what is in the best interest of the public and what is in its own self-interest. That should be a very clear distinction. Yet every time I see the government sitting on information that should be made public, paid for by public tax dollars, done by public servants, I do not understand how the government can say, "That is in our domain, not your domain."

What is the government's domain? Surely its domain is the public domain. I resent very much having information sitting on a minister's desk and not being made available to those of us in the opposition. That is simply not appropriate.

We in the opposition will continue to push with some vigour for appropriate freedom of information legislation in Ontario.

**Mr. Eves:** At the outset, let me commend the member for Kitchener for his long-standing diligence and persistence in this matter. Certainly, I think the objectives of his bill are very commendable and I would support them fully.

**Mr. Kerrio:** However.

**Mr. Eves:** The member knew that word was coming.

However, it would seem there are a number of problems with the approach of the proposed legislation.

**Mr. R. F. Johnston:** Are they a secret or is the member going to tell us?

**Mr. Eves:** They are not secret. I will tell the honourable member.

I feel the means whereby the member proposes to achieve freedom of information and protection of individual privacy will not ultimately lead to the desired end.

**5:40 p.m.**

The section of Bill 2 that concerns me deals with the protection of individual privacy. In today's increasingly complex world of computers and high-technology communications systems, personal privacy and confidentiality of personal information are of increasing concern to more and more Ontario citizens. No longer can we assume personal confidentiality is consistently being adhered to. By this, I do not mean to suggest people are not respecting personal privacy. Rather there are just too many avenues open where some error could occur which would allow reams of confidential records to become public information.

With the advent of computerized record-keeping and increasingly sophisticated computer systems, the possibility of technical malfunctions and human error rises. Already we have heard of an actual situation where computer records and information have been accessed by unauthorized individuals. Perhaps the most disturbing incident occurred in New York City recently. I am sure many members of the Legislature have already heard of that situation.

There, one or two people using home computers worked their way into the computer records of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Once accessed into the system, the culprits were having fun eliminating and creating billing records. However, the centre later acknowledged that medical records could easily have been tampered with. Had that occurred, the culprits would no longer have been "having fun," they would have been jeopardizing human lives.

I feel this incident clearly drives home the point that this House must not only become increasingly concerned with the security of personal records, be they medical, financial or otherwise, it must also address the more subtle abuses of private information which have the potential to increase. The rapid sophistication of technology has provided opportunities for various types of exploitation that were not even contemplated 10 years ago.

Today, as communications technology advances and becomes an even more important cog in our daily lives, the question of privacy and data control looms ever larger. To a great extent, legislation concerning computer crimes, such as the incident I described earlier, must be incorporated into the federal Criminal Code. The federal government has proposed some amendments which modify and strengthen the Criminal Code, but surely they are only an initial step.



Perhaps it is necessary for governments to look at developing new laws that will deal directly with much more subtle and broader problems of data control, such as the fact there is no recourse for the individual who feels information he or she has supplied has been used without authorization.

The opportunity for the free-wheeling exchange and selling of information supplied to an electronic data bank, brought about by our rapid technological sophistication, is something legislators must be increasingly prepared to address. Towards this end, the bill proposed by the member for Kitchener is not really the answer. It really addresses only provincial government data bases.

A second major concern I have with the proposed bill concerns ministerial accountability. Bill 2 does nothing to strengthen accountability and responsibility of government ministers. I believe that is a fundamental flaw in the proposed legislation.

I feel the process of deciding whether information should or should not be released must be set out in a statutory framework with clear, accurate and relevant criteria. This is a dynamic process which must recognize and balance the rights of the individual with those of society and government. Ultimately, it is an issue with a simple, universally accepted principle, but complex and widely divergent practices.

The cornerstone of all freedom of information initiatives rests with the review or appeal process. The recourse for an individual who feels the system has not been open or just must be a pragmatic, workable mechanism. In my opinion, according the individual a theoretical opportunity to take the matter to court, as Bill 2 does, is not in effect a practical solution.

First, it is a costly process for both the public and government. Second, the use of the courts as a final review could result in substantial backlogs, thus removing the timeliness of most requests. More important, the judiciary itself has raised more fundamental concerns about the use of courts as the final arbiter in such matters. Mr. Justice Culliton, former Chief Justice of Saskatchewan, has stated: "It has become fashionable of late to denigrate the convention of ministerial responsibility. However, in spite of changes in duties and responsibilities, the cabinet minister in charge of a department, corporation or agency is yet held responsible for policies and is accountable for the exercise of power."

This is an important point. Many proponents of freedom of information advocate that an

appeal process should be with the courts. Justice Culliton went on to say it can reasonably be argued that to involve the courts in the politics of the review process must result in politicizing the courts, thus eroding their hard-won impartiality. In this context, it is evident the House must seek ways to increase ministerial responsibility and accountability, not to diminish it. Bill 2 does not do this.

It is in this respect I have a fundamental disagreement with the bill as proposed by the member for Kitchener. Although I find his primary objectives and principles laudable and honourable, I regret I cannot support the bill.

**Mr. Foulds:** Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the freedom of information bill put forward by the member for Kitchener. I listened to the debate on the speaker in my office, and I have never heard such cant as I heard from those speaking against the bill.

A lot of sympathy has been expressed for privacy of information, but that argument on the government side ignores the fact that it is information to which the government has access. The government already has access to individual records. It has access to medical records, whether we like it or not. The safeguards built into the bill proposed by the member for Kitchener are the safeguards we need.

Let me say as passionately as I can that this government has been talking for eight years, to my knowledge, about freedom of information. Every year, one or other member of the opposition, such as the member for Kitchener, has put forward a bill on behalf of freedom of information and every year the government has either vetoed or defeated it. The federal Tories have voted in favour of the principle of freedom of information. One of the fiercest fighters for freedom of information has been Jed Baldwin, a man of some considerable integrity.

I would appreciate it if the government House leader did not have the 20-line whip on today and did not veto the bill. I would like freedom of expression in this Legislature, so we in the House could show our support for the principle of freedom of information. It is important that it is not merely the principle we are endorsing, but the actual act. That is why I very much appreciate the member for Kitchener proposing a bill, and not just a resolution the Tories could vote on and then defeat an actual piece of legislation subsequently, as they did with the equal pay for work of equal value principle.

I strongly suggest all members of the Legislature who have at heart the sense of history of what



a democracy is, must also have at heart the principle embedded in this bill: that a government should not be secretive. The information sought by my colleague the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren) with regard to the public courts of this province should be public.

**Mr. Speaker:** The member's time has expired.

**Mr. Foulds:** The information sought by my colleague the member for Rainy River (Mr. T. P. Reid) about government polls should be public information. I suggest this is a bill on which we can all unite to vote unanimously in its favour.

5:50 p.m.

#### EXPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

**Mr. Speaker:** We will deal first with ballot item 4 standing in the name of the member for York Centre (Mr. Cousens). Are any members opposed to this matter coming to a vote?

All those in favour will please say "aye."

All those opposed will please say "nay."

In my opinion, the ayes have it.

Motion agreed to.

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

The following members having objected by rising, a vote was not taken on Bill 2:

Andrewes, Ashe, Baetz, Barlow, Cousens, Drea, Elgie, Gillies, Gordon, Gregory, Havrot, Johnson, J. M., Kennedy, Lane, Leluk, McCague, McLean, Pollock, Ramsay, Rotenberg, Runciman, Scrivener, Sheppard, Snow, Taylor, G. W., Treleaven, Villeneuve, Wells, Williams—29

#### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN ORDERS AND NOTICES AND RESPONSE TO PETITION

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the answers to questions 257, 259, 260 and 261 and the response to petition, sessional paper 37 [see Hansard for Friday, April 13].

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to indicate the business of the House for the coming week.

Tonight, we will consider in committee of the whole House the report of the select committee on the Ombudsman. We are going to deal only with the 14 recommendations. When the House has finished with that report, we will not be dealing with order 19, which is the special report of the committee on the Ombudsman. We will adjourn when we are finished with the first report.

Tomorrow, we will deal with legislation.

On Monday, April 16, we will consider the motion for adoption of the reports from the standing committee on social development respecting family violence and child abuse.

On Tuesday, April 17, we will resume legislation and deal with Bills 4, 5, 6, 11 and 12, if they are not completed before Tuesday. At eight o'clock on Tuesday, we will deal with second reading and committee of the whole House, if required, on Bill 28.

On Wednesday, April 18, the House will meet in the afternoon and we will consider resolutions standing in the names of the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren) and the member for Timiskaming (Mr. Havrot).

We will adjourn at 6 p.m., Wednesday, April 18, until 2 p.m., Tuesday, April 24.

The House recessed at 5:54 p.m.

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# Hansard

## Official Report of Debates

### Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**Fourth Session, 32nd Parliament**

Thursday, April 12, 1984

Evening Sitting

Speaker: Honourable John M. Turner

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Thursday, April 12, 1984

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

House in committee of the whole.

## 10TH REPORT, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE OMBUDSMAN (concluded)

Resuming the adjourned debate on the motion for adoption of the recommendations contained in the 10th report of the select committee on the Ombudsman.

**Mr. Runciman:** Mr. Chairman, as chairman of the select committee, I would like to take the opportunity to make a few brief comments for the record. At the outset I want to say—

**Mr. Conway:** Assistant whip and chairman.

**Mr. Runciman:** No. Correct the record. I am no longer a whip.

I do not think it is my role to argue the pros and cons of the recommendations we are debating this evening. The report itself indicates the committee's thinking leading up to the recommendations. Although I am going to refrain from arguing in favour of the recommendations, I have no hesitation in urging members to consider them very carefully. In this regard, I would like to quote from our ninth report:

"As a matter of general principle, the committee does not consider that a single decision of the Legislative Assembly to reject such a recommendation of this committee will undermine the Ombudsman's authority and effectiveness. However, the committee believes that such a decision by the assembly should only be taken in exceptional circumstances and only when, after a full debate has occurred, the Legislature is able to conclude that the implementation of the committee's recommendation would, in the circumstances, be contrary to the public interest or be contrary to some generally recognized principle of law.

"The process that has developed between this committee and the Legislative Assembly respecting Ombudsman recommendations requires that all relevant committee recommendations be adopted by the Legislature unless some substantive reason to the contrary can be shown. It is absolutely vital to the continuing viability and effectiveness of the Ombudsman process that this

be so. If a situation were permitted to develop whereby rejection of such committee recommendations were the norm or were made for some capricious reason, the Ombudsman's effectiveness in the eyes of the governmental organizations and the people of the province of Ontario would be irreparably harmed."

When the committee's ninth report was debated, we had just passed through a rather unsettling dispute with the Ombudsman, dealing with his refusal to provide certain budgetary documents to the committee. Following adoption of our ninth report, that matter was resolved and the material in question was provided to the committee.

It is regrettable that the dispute occurred and perhaps even more regrettable that it took place towards the end of the Honourable Donald Morand's tenure. It tended to cast something of a shadow over his departure. For my part, I want to go on the record in saying how much respect I have for the integrity and dedication of the Honourable Donald Morand. He served this province well in the office of Ombudsman, and I wish him the best for his retirement years.

Of course, I would be remiss if I did not mention that the committee is looking forward with a great deal of anticipation to working with Mr. Morand's successor, Dr. Daniel Hill. We met with him briefly in January. The committee is meeting again with him in two weeks to discuss in detail how he plans to handle the office, and we are confident he will prove to be an excellent Ombudsman.

Over the years, the select committee has developed a reputation for being nonpartisan, fair and evenhanded. In terms of the nonpartisan nature of the committee, this session is the only one in my recollection where we divided along party lines. I believe it was while dealing with the North Pickering matter. For the most part, committee members make a tremendous effort to maintain the reputation of nonpartisanship of the committee.

I want to compliment all members who participated in the very long hours it took to deal with highly detailed and sometimes confusing problems. A special thank-you is owed to the member for London North (Mr. Van Horne) for



his services as vice-chairman of the committee; he has proved to be a tremendous asset to the committee and a great help to me.

**Mr. Kerrio:** We are open to offers if the honourable member wants to trade.

**Mr. Van Horne:** The member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Kerrio) is supposed to be my friend.

Mr. Chairman, it is with a degree of embarrassment that I accept the kind words from our chairman, the member for Leeds (Mr. Runciman). I do not intend, in these very few remarks, to get into any of the details of this 10th report. I am sure those who are interested will have read it, and others who have been busy in other areas will trust the good judgement of the committee in the recommendations contained within it.

I repeat the sentiment suggested by the chairman, the member for Leeds, about the committee and its nonpartisanship. I have been fortunate to have been on this committee now for three years. I can support his comment and suggest to anyone who might be interested in the words I utter tonight that it is important to treat the office of Ombudsman as evenhandedly as possible through this Legislature. Only in taking such an attitude can the Office of the Ombudsman carry on and do the job the Legislature intended it to do when it agreed there should be an Ombudsman.

In these opening comments, I want to commend the chairman and again remind all present that the committee has, by and large, been nonpartisan. It is unfortunate that we split on the Pickering issue. That issue hung on longer than any other issue that has been examined or reviewed by the Office of the Ombudsman. It is fair to say we had a very definite political split, but in my view one who looked at the issue from an equal treatment of all people concerned would have to agree that issue as it was seen by the Ombudsman, and which we agreed with, was really the only fair answer that one could come up with. However, the committee carries on and the report is in front of the members.

**8:10 p.m.**

I would like very briefly to offer words of commendation to the past Ombudsman. It may be slightly out of order to take the opportunity at this point, but on the other hand one does not often have the opportunity to put things such as this on the record. Although perhaps I am taking advantage of the situation, I submit that he tried in his own way to be evenhanded and fair in the cases he reviewed as Ombudsman. I am not suggesting for a moment that all was perfect in so far as the administration of that office was

concerned. It was in the area of administration that the Ombudsman ran into some problems with the committee.

If anyone as a member of this Legislature has wondered on occasion why this committee should continue, I submit that even though virtually every member has had time to reflect on it, and some have misgivings about it, the committee has a role to play in providing a link or a connection between that office and this Legislature. If there are things this committee perceives to be sliding off the theme in the intent of that office, it is incumbent on the committee to make that clear to the Ombudsman, to his office or to the Legislature, and I think we have done that.

I would like to point out the committee has some degree of recognition by our counterparts in other legislatures across the country and even on an international basis. It is no secret that after the presentation of this 10th report, the committee visited British Columbia and participated in an international conference of ombudspople. It speaks well for what is going on here in Ontario. We do have our lumps, warts and faults along the way, but relative to other jurisdictions, I would say we wear them fairly well. I commend all members of the committee for their participation and involvement in that international conference in September 1983 in British Columbia.

On the same theme, the select committee on the Ombudsman made an attempt to reach out and understand the needs of that office by spending some time after its 10th report visiting northern Ontario. For all the citizens of this country of ours, and particularly of this province, that was an exercise of worth, one that will bring dividends to the Office of the Ombudsman and to this Legislature. That sort of thing makes being a member worthwhile.

As far as the recommendations are concerned, found in schedule 6 starting on page 88 of the report, if anyone has not had the opportunity to review them, I think they reflect the degree of involvement with and complexity of the issues that are brought before the Ombudsman's office. It is only when those cases run into some stumbling block that they come before the select committee.

I submit that each and every one of the 14 recommendations in this report was made after a thorough investigation by the committee, a thorough discussion by the committee and a complete and well-thought-out debate by all members of the committee. Without getting into



details, I submit they are the result of a long and important process in this Legislature.

Let me conclude by submitting to all present that it is a pleasure to be part of that committee and by commending the recommendations of the 10th report of the select committee on the Ombudsman to the House.

**Mr. Philip:** Mr. Speaker, it has been three years since I had an opportunity to act as our party's spokesperson on the Office of the Ombudsman and to be a member of the select committee. When I last spoke on Ombudsman matters in a public forum such as the Legislature, we were looking forward to the appointment of a new Ombudsman. I think we can all take some pride in the excellent selection that was made.

At the same time, I would like to reiterate some of the statements I made in the Ombudsman committee and in public about the selection process. I feel that while we have been very successful in obtaining what would probably have been the choice had he been one of the candidates to come before the committee or before the Legislature, there is always the problem that if you wish a committee to operate in a nonpartisan way, as this Ombudsman committee has, you have to look at the processes that will promote that.

When we looked at the Office of the Ombudsman in British Columbia, we saw that a process was in place whereby it was not the government that chose the Ombudsman but rather the committee; and it had to be a consensus, not just a democratic or pluralistic vote as to who the candidate would be. When that kind of process happens, then you immediately start off on the right footing between the committee that must work with the Ombudsman and the Ombudsman himself.

We are fortunate in this case, even though that process was not followed, that we still have the same feeling of support and agreement with the choice that was made. None the less, we may not be fortunate enough in the future, in years to come, to have another Hill come on the scene. The process was still secretive; it was arbitrary. Indeed, in the case of our chairman, in whom I have the greatest confidence and who has done an excellent job, not even he was consulted even though he happens to be of the government party.

When I speak about the chairman, I must say he has conducted the committee in a manner that only can be called nonpartisan and highly professional and with a great deal of dedication and competence.

A lot can be said also of the excellent work of the clerk of the committee and of the manner in which the committee itself worked. When one sees the kind of partisanship and the kind of bickering that takes place in other committees around this House, one must certainly praise the Ombudsman committee as one that by and large, with very few exceptions, has been removed from that.

I am sorry that both our chairman and the Liberal spokesperson talked about one vote, namely the Pickering vote, as being partisan, because I do not see that vote as being partisan. What I see is that it happened to be a disagreement as to whether to side with the Ombudsman and recognize that an administrative procedure was basically wrong and that, whatever the consequences, whoever might or might not benefit by that decision was irrelevant to the issue. The issue was whether the process was wrong; and if so, one then had to come down and say that the process was wrong and that corrections would be made, even though certain people were going to profit from it.

In this case it was asserted, although not proven, that the people who were going to profit as a result of the Ombudsman's recommendation were speculators. Whether or not that was the case, even if they were speculators, the issue was not who would benefit but whether there was a process that could be identified and whether the process could be highlighted and changed.

It happened that the member for Downsview (Mr. Di Santo) and I found ourselves coming down for a position of the Ombudsman that some people said would assist speculators and that they felt was unbecoming of the New Democratic Party. I can only say that we came to this decision on our own; it was not a caucus decision. We did not deal with it in a partisan way in our caucus, and we came to it individually as individual members of the committee. Indeed, if the member for Downsview had voted on the other side, there would have been no hard feelings between him and me.

**8:20 p.m.**

I think in all fairness that the nonpartisanship of the committee was kept intact even with that disagreement in which the member for Downsview and I happened to agree with the Ombudsman in this case and the Liberal and Conservative members were against the decision.

I would like to deal with a few of the problems we deal with at the beginning of the report, namely, that there is still a major problem in the length of time it takes to process an application.



The fact that it takes in excess of one year to process 30 per cent of the jurisdictional files is a concern. The committee was also concerned about the length of time between when the reports are tabled and when they are debated. To take the kind of time it has taken for both the ninth and the 10th reports is to deny justice to those people we are trying to serve.

Our committee members recognize there are a number of restrictions on the Office of the Ombudsman. One of our concerns has been the length of time it has taken the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry) to come down with his long-promised revision of the Ombudsman Act. Last September, a spokesperson for the Attorney General's office told members of our committee that a new bill was in the works and forthcoming, but we have not yet seen when that final draft will be presented. I hope the Attorney General will address himself to that issue.

We will be dealing with a number of recommendations, and I gather the minister will be answering the concerns of the committee members and the Ombudsman. Before we do this, I would like to express to members of this House and to the Ombudsman some concerns I have already expressed to some of my colleagues on the committee.

I am concerned that over the last few years the Office of the Ombudsman has become an office that has been spending a great deal of its resources, as it should, in dealing with individual cases but perhaps not enough time studying the processes that create the kinds of injustices it must try to patch up.

I was impressed by the manner in which the Ombudsman of British Columbia, Karl Friedmann, developed and spelled out very clearly a series of procedural or administrative errors that are likely to create injustices. In comparison, it is the difference between the preventive approach to health care and the traditional model of patching up people after they are ill.

It is imperative that we look at ways of spelling out those errors so that public servants and those in command can avoid creating the kinds of injustices that have to be repaired on a one-by-one basis by the Ombudsman, the committee and this Legislature.

I also think it is imperative that we look at the active versus the passive role of the Ombudsman. My concern has been that most of the injustices in society are committed against those who are illiterate or those who lack the verbal skills to express themselves and make their concerns known.

In the case of the mentally retarded, the mentally ill or the very senior members of our society, it is imperative that the Ombudsman fulfil the role of an active investigator, looking for those kinds of things that are going wrong and reporting them to the committee and the Legislature. It is not good enough for the Ombudsman to sit back and wait for someone to come to his office, or even to his regional office, and lay an individual complaint.

I am pleased to see the new Ombudsman has stated that one of the first things he will do is to interview each and every member of his staff to find out what he is doing and what assistance the whole office can give to having him do his job more efficiently and effectively. I know that many of the senior staff in the Ombudsman's office, many of the investigators, see that there is an activist role of the Ombudsman, and they will have expressed those views to Mr. Hill.

I hope that in the future the reports of the Ombudsman and of the committee will devote more time to dealing with the processes that create injustices; that the Ombudsman will take initiative to look for problems related to government injustices; and that perhaps the reports of the Ombudsman and of our committee act in part as training manuals for public servants in defining their administrative procedures.

One of the matters that will become clear as we deal with the various recommendations of our committee is that many ministries have already acted in a thoughtful and mature way and have corrected some of the wrongs the Ombudsman pointed out and on which members of the committee upheld the Ombudsman. I say to those ministries that they have our support and our congratulations, and we are certainly pleased to see this kind of attitude.

There are other ministries that have given very forceful reasons—reasons that I believe they are sincerely concerned about—as to why they disagree with the committee; and I can accept that. What I cannot accept is when a ministry plays word games with the Ombudsman and with the committee and tries to get around what is clearly the intention of the Ombudsman and of the committee by playing one-upmanship and a word game so they get out from under the recommendations.

One ministry in particular is guilty of that, and I see that the minister of this ministry is sitting over there and will answer for it. The attitude of the agency under this ministry is not clever. It is contemptuous of the Ombudsman and it is contemptuous of the Legislature, and I hope we



will deal with it when we come to this particular case.

Once again, it has been a pleasure working with the members of all parties on the committee; it has been a pleasure working with the chairman, who has done an excellent job; and I look forward to working with Mr. Hill, who is, as I said before, an excellent choice for Ombudsman. I am sure we are going to see an excellent series of years under his able direction.

**Mr. Chairman:** I wonder if at this juncture I might ask some guidance of the committee—

**Mr. Boudria:** Why do you not ask them to keep quiet first?

**Mr. Chairman:** Order. I wonder if I might have some guidance of the members of the committee as to which way they would like to proceed. I suppose if they were so to direct, we could deal with a debate ranging over all the recommendations, or we could deal with them one at a time and adopt each one.

**Mr. Martel:** Mr. Chairman, if it would help you, I think there is some agreement among the House leaders that we should call these one at a time. I would hope the cabinet would indicate the government's position on each of the recommendations before us, and that might expedite the business.

If there were consent, I think it would reduce some of the debate if we knew ahead of time where the government was going to stand on each of these. If they could be called in that way, it would expedite the business pertaining to this report.

8:30 p.m.

**Mr. Nixon:** Mr. Chairman, if I might make a suggestion, I am as usual almost entirely in complete agreement with my colleague the New Democratic Party House leader. But I thought our concept of this debate was that the appropriate ministers, if they had an objection to any of the recommendations, would say so. Unless there is an objection, I do not know whether it is necessary to wade through them one by one. If there is something the ministry is not prepared to go along with and might end up in a division after debate, then I agree entirely with what the honourable member has said.

Frankly, I was under the impression there was going to be a general accession by the various ministers to the recommendations from the committee. Let us not make this more complicated than it has to be. With the very fine, general statements that have been made, it seems to me that if the appropriate ministers are

prepared to accept this stuff, we could all agree to accept the thing and get on to other important matters.

**Mr. Van Horne:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to rise to concur with my House leader's observations. I do not see any point in going through these 14 recommendations. They have been given a very thorough review within committee and I would submit that if the cabinet ministers involved do not have any problems—and on occasion we have had a problem and it has been resolved through the cabinet minister's speech—if we do not have a problem in the mind of a cabinet minister, I would submit we deal with the report in one single vote.

**Mr. Chairman:** Let us deal with it that way then.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Chairman, you will have to tell us this. There is more than one part of this document in which recommendations are listed—

**Mr. Chairman:** It might help the member and make it easier to follow if he would use page 3 on our business sheet.

**Mr. Philip:** Mr. Chairman, recommendations 1 and 4 deal with the Attorney General (Mr. McMurtry). Do we have a response on recommendations 1 and 4?

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Chairman, I have a response on behalf of the Attorney General in respect to recommendation 4. I do not have a response for recommendation 1, but I do have one for recommendation 4.

**Mr. Chairman:** I wonder then if we may deal with that when we get to it.

Recommendations 1 to 3, inclusive, agreed to.  
On recommendation 4:

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** On behalf of my colleague the Attorney General, I wish to address recommendation 4 from the 10th report of the select committee on the Ombudsman, 1983, which reads as follows:

"The committee recommends that the Attorney General table during the 32nd Parliament of this Legislature a bill amending or otherwise dealing with the Ombudsman Act having regard for the matters contained in the draft bill and policy submission provided by the Ombudsman in January 1981."

At the request of the select committee on the Ombudsman, the Attorney General thoroughly reviewed the 1981 submission and a staff member appeared before the committee in September to indicate the ministry was considering the amendments. However, in the light of the



fact that a new Ombudsman had not been appointed, it was deemed appropriate not to proceed with amendments until the new Ombudsman had a chance to consider the proposals.

On Dr. Hill's appointment as Ombudsman, he was notified in writing that the Attorney General was willing to proceed to consider the amendments as soon as Dr. Hill became oriented to his new position and was more familiar with his new office. By letter dated April 2, 1984, Dr. Hill advised the Deputy Attorney General he was ready to meet to consider the amendments. At this time, arrangements are being made with the new Ombudsman to review with him the amendments in question.

Recommendation 4 agreed to.

**Mr. Boudria:** Mr. Chairman, perhaps this is a point of order. I am not sure how you are going to deal with this particular item.

I notice that recommendation 4 deals with something that is on page 18 of our report. I have some comments on an item that is on page 21 of this report. I note that recommendation 5 deals with page 28, but there does not seem to be a mechanism for us to address those matters which are not listed, other than the ones in Orders and Notices. Yet we are discussing the whole report and not just—

**Mr. Chairman:** With all due respect, I think we are only dealing with the recommendations at this point, not the full report. We have had our general comments.

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Chairman, recommendation 5 deals with the matter of the Workers' Compensation Board as do recommendations 9 through 14. At some appropriate time, perhaps right now, I have a brief statement that would deal with those items, recommendations 5 and 9 through 14. If required, I could go into more detail on each individual item, but perhaps the statement would cover them.

**Mr. Chairman:** Just to help expedite things, I wonder if it might be the pleasure of the committee that recommendations 6, 7 and 8 be carried?

**Mr. Mackenzie:** I think recommendations 6, 7, 8 and 12 have already been implemented. May I make a suggestion that those four be carried?

Recommendations 6, 7, 8 and 12 agreed to.

On recommendation 5:

**Hon. Mr. Ramsay:** Mr. Speaker, section 6 of the 10th report of the select committee on the Ombudsman contains a number of recommendations directed to various ministries and agencies of the crown. Of these, seven deal with the

Workers' Compensation Board, which falls under the auspices of my ministry. I believe it is therefore appropriate for me to make a few brief opening remarks before debate commences.

I am pleased to be able to report that the Workers' Compensation Board has complied with each of the recommendations directed to it. In one case, recommendation 11, the board is still in the process of gathering additional information dealing with the new issue introduced for the first time when the matter was reconsidered on March 26 this year. I have been informed that, depending on the nature and extent of the further medical investigation required, a decision from the appeal board should be forthcoming in a few weeks.

In one instance, the board's reconsideration has resulted in an additional award in excess of \$13,000 for the injured worker involved. In others, new hearings have been held, giving workers a further opportunity to present arguments in support of their claims. In those cases, the board confirmed its earlier decisions, following careful and conscientious review. It did, however, comply with the committee's recommendations, which were to reconsider the original awards.

As to the merits of these cases, it must be remembered that the statute requires the board to exercise its best judgement in the light of all the evidence and submissions made to it. While the Ombudsman's comments and the committee's recommendations are taken very seriously, it is the board which bears the ultimate statutory responsibility for the often very difficult decisions that must be made.

In this connection, it is significant to note that in the report of the select committee we are debating tonight the Ombudsman commented on six board decisions and one policy issue. As members may know, the board has a very heavy case load and dealt with more than 350,000 claims requiring decisions in the last calendar year. I believe it is very significant that with a case load of this size there are relatively few instances where differences persist between the board's ultimate decision and the opinion of the Ombudsman and the committee.

Thus, while there are always likely to be a small number of issues on which agreement is not reached, I believe we have a system that ensures every conceivable protection is given to an aggrieved party. In this connection, I would commend the members of the select committee for their careful and conscientious attention to the



facts and the legal interpretation in each of the disputed cases.

The committee's recommendations have been and will continue to be of invaluable assistance in assuring that the Workers' Compensation Act is administered in a fair and equitable manner.

**Mr. Chairman:** Are there other comments?

Recommendation 5 agreed to.

Recommendations 9 to 11, inclusive, and 13 and 14 agreed to.

**8:40 p.m.**

**Mr. Boudria:** I have to try one more time to put in a few words on this report. I have not been able to do so thus far. After the two opening remarks from members of the committee, we were led on to recommendation 1 and no opportunity was given to make comments on those sections of this report about which some of us have concerns to express until you, Mr. Chairman, had commenced dealing with them clause by clause.

When several contentious issues are raised in this report that do not form part of these recommendations, I find it unfortunate that there is no opportunity for members to express their views on them. I am thinking of issues that have been outstanding for six, seven or eight years on which the Ombudsman has made recommendations that the government has not yet acted on.

I think we should take some opportunity to discuss why, for instance, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is still not doing something that was recommended in 1977. I do not believe we have yet been afforded that opportunity in any way, shape or form. Those are important issues.

If the Ombudsman is going to have any kind of credibility vis-à-vis the people of this province, we must not let recommendations of the Ombudsman go on not being acted upon by this government.

**Mr. Chairman,** I ask for some opportunity to express those views at some point.

**Mr. Chairman:** I think that might be something the member should take up with his House leader because the orders of the day have been to deal with the recommendations as opposed to the report.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** In response to what my friend has said, it seems to me the place to raise that kind of matter is in the select committee on the Ombudsman.

**Mr. Boudria:** We have done that.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Then a motion should be made there and it should come forward in a recommendation to the House.

**Mr. Boudria:** It is in the report as a recommendation to the House.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** It cannot be in the report as a recommendation because all the recommendations are here. The recommendations of the report were all to be—

**Mr. Boudria:** It is in this report under recommendations from previous reports.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** But we are not dealing with that. There should have been a recommendation in this report commenting on previous reports. I do not think we have any prerogative here to change any of the recommendations.

**Mr. Boudria:** If I can speak again to the same point, I am not advocating a change in the report, but I do find it unusual that members of this Legislature were supposed to have the foresight a year ago to have included in this report mechanisms by which the government House leader would be happy, retroactively, about the way they should have been done.

We have included all our concerns in this report. I think it is very unfortunate that issues that are not being addressed by the government are not permitted to be discussed in this Legislature when we discuss the report of the Ombudsman. Ultimately, it is the Office of the Ombudsman that will suffer by those things not being aired.

**Mr. Martel:** I suggest we move out of committee of the whole House. If my friend wants a large, rambling debate, we might as well stay around. We put the amendments as they are in that report. We had them printed today to have a debate, to hear the recommendations and to facilitate the discussion surrounding what we were going to vote on.

If the member is inclined to stay around and chat about something that is not a recommendation in the report, I suggest we rise and report. If people want to stay around and hear some discussion on something that is not a recommendation that we are not going to vote on, that is fine as far as I am concerned. I might not be prepared to stay around and listen to it, but we should report the recommendations voted on and move ahead.

**Mr. Chairman:** We are following it in the right way.

**Mr. Van Horne:** In deference to my colleague the member for Prescott-Russell (Mr. Boudria), I would like to submit it was not the intent of the committee to make light of recommendations from earlier reports that had not been accommo-



dated through the Ombudsman's office or through the Legislature.

If the point he raises tonight points out a fault in the way this report is prepared or presented to the House, the committee is big enough to accommodate that and to look at it the next time it meets.

Beyond that, the member has the opportunity to raise it in caucus for assurances from the House leader that the House leaders can all ask that the format for presentation of the report do not exclude that, if it is a concern to that member or any other member.

In agreement with my House leader and the other two House leaders, I would submit that the intent at this particular time is to deal with the recommendations as they appear on the business paper for Thursday, April 12. That is what we should be dealing with right now.

On motion by Hon. Mr. Wells, the committee of the whole House reported certain recommendations.

**Mr. Martel:** Might I just ask the House leader for a moment so people will not say we cut off the debate? We got through the vote in the established way. To avoid having anyone suggest we were failing to have any debate on the broad report, I would ask if we might just consider for a few moments if someone has something he might want to get off his chest. If they want to do that, we could adjourn once they have accepted that

opportunity. I would ask the House leader to consider that.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend's point, but I assumed when the motion was put, "Shall the report be adopted?" that that was the motion or order before the House. No one stood up to make any comments, so I am assuming we are all—

**Mr. Martel:** Just so no one misreads this.

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** Does anyone feel we should revert? We can only revert with the unanimous consent of the House now.

**Mr. Speaker:** Revert to what?

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** We could revert in the House to "Shall the report be accepted?" and there could be a debate on the motion of accepting the report of the resolutions. If anyone wishes to talk generally on that, that would give an opportunity under an order for those who wish to talk on it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is somebody going to make a motion?

**Hon. Mr. Wells:** I would have no objection to reverting to your putting the question again, "Shall the report be adopted?"

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the House that the report be adopted?

Agreed to.

The House adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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**SPEAKERS IN THIS ISSUE**

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 Kerrio, V. G. (Niagara Falls L)  
 Mackenzie, R. W. (Hamilton East NDP)  
 Martel, E. W. (Sudbury East NDP)  
 Nixon, R. F. (Brant-Oxford-Norfolk L)  
 Philip, E. T. (Etobicoke NDP)  
 Ramsay, Hon. R. H., Minister of Labour (Sault Ste. Marie PC)  
 Runciman, R. W. (Leeds PC)  
 Turner, Hon. J. M., Speaker (Peterborough PC)  
 Van Horne, R. G. (London North L)  
 Wells, Hon. T. L., Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Scarborough North PC)

















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